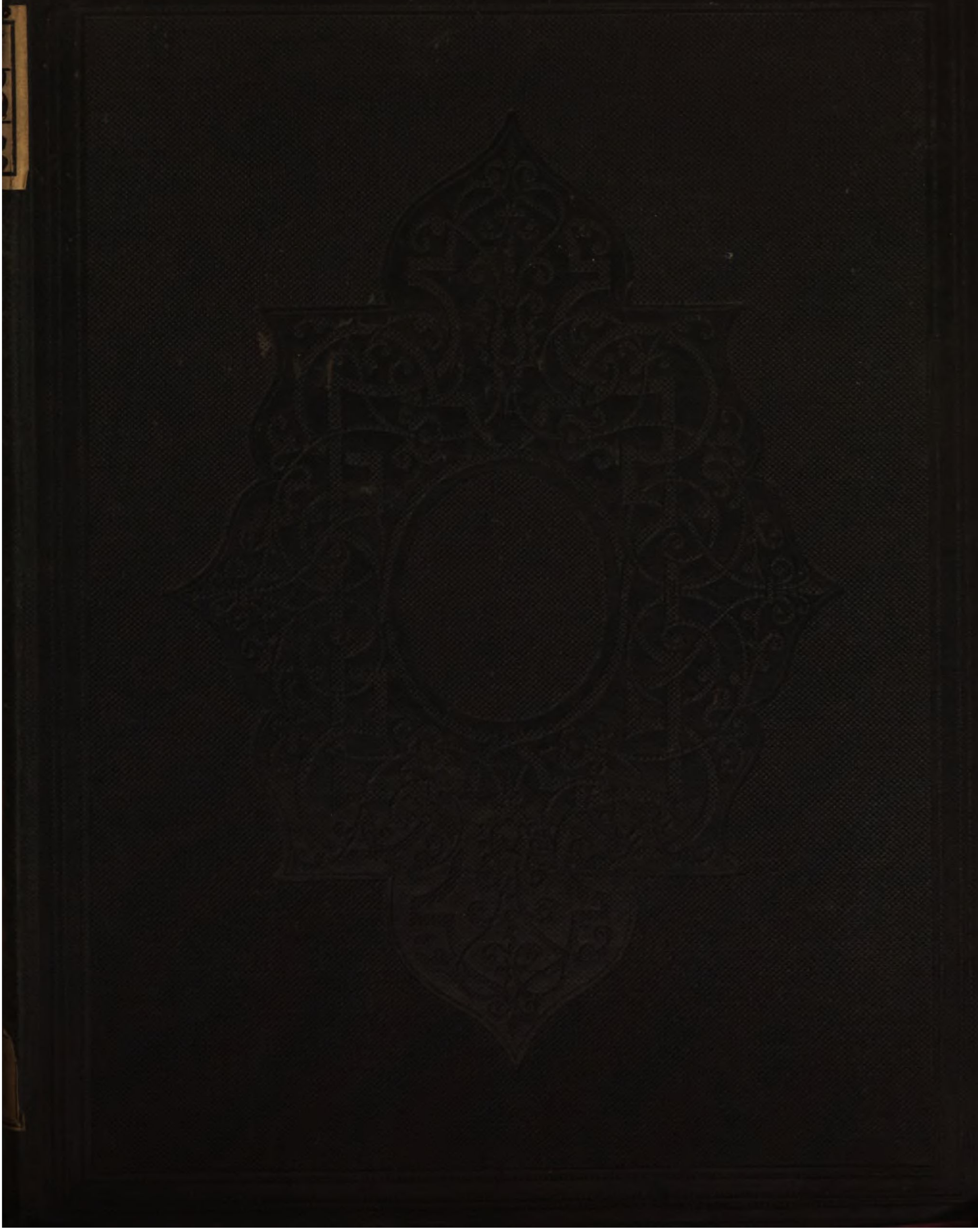


Brit.
123 f
38.

4°

DOCUMENTS

RELATING TO THE

FOUNDATION AND ANTIQUITIES

OF THE

COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF MIDDLEHAM,

IN THE COUNTY OF YORK;

WITH AN HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION, AND INCIDENTAL NOTICES
OF THE CASTLE, TOWN, AND NEIGHBOURHOOD.

BY THE

REV. WILLIAM ATTHILL,

CANON AND SUB-DEAN OF MIDDLEHAM.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR THE CAMDEN SOCIETY,

BY JOHN BOWYER NICHOLS AND SON, 25, PARLIAMENT-STREET.

M.DCCC.XL.VII.

Bayerische
Staatsbibliothek
München

[NO. XXXVIII.]

COUNCIL

OF

THE CAMDEN SOCIETY

FOR THE YEAR 1846-7.

President,

THE RIGHT HON. LORD BRAYBROOKE, F.S.A.

THOMAS AMYOT, ESQ. F.R.S., Treas. S.A. *Director.*

BERIAH BOTFIELD, ESQ. M.P., F.R.S., F.S.A.

JOHN PAYNE COLLIER, ESQ. F.S.A. *Treasurer.*

C. PURTON COOPER, ESQ. Q.C., D.C.L., F.R.S., F.S.A.

WILLIAM DURRANT COOPER, ESQ. F.S.A.

BOLTON CORNEY, ESQ., M.R.S.L.

SIR HENRY ELLIS, K.H., F.R.S., Sec. S.A.

THE REV. JOSEPH HUNTER, F.S.A.

PETER LEVESQUE, ESQ. F.S.A.

SIR FRANCIS PALGRAVE, K.H., F.R.S.

THOMAS JOSEPH PETTIGREW, ESQ. F.R.S., F.S.A.

THOMAS STAPLETON, ESQ., V.P.S.A.

WILLIAM J. THOMS, ESQ. F.S.A., *Secretary.*

ALBERT WAY, ESQ. M.A., F.S.A.

THOMAS WRIGHT, ESQ. M.A., F.S.A.

The Council of the Camden Society desire it to be understood that they are not answerable for any opinions or observations that may appear in the Society's publications; the Editors of the several works being alone responsible for the same.

TO THE

VERY REVEREND P. S. WOOD, LL.D.

DEAN OF THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH

AND ROYAL PECULIAR OF MIDDLEHAM, IN THE COUNTY OF YORK.

DEAR MR. DEAN,

INDEBTED to your friendship for the position which I hold in the Collegiate Church of which you are the head, I cannot resist my desire of dedicating its history to you; and most gladly do I embrace the opportunity thus afforded me of tendering my sincere and grateful thanks for the many and continuous acts of kindness which, during the period of my connexion with you, now approaching to eight years, I have at all times, and under all circumstances, experienced at your hands.

That you may long continue to preside over the ancient College of Middleham, and enjoy every blessing which this world can afford, is not alone the earnest desire of myself, and every member of your chapter, but also of the many friends who have enjoyed your hospitalities

during your visits to this seat of your jurisdiction, or who have experienced the still greater gratification of being occasionally inmates of your happy and refined home.

Indebted as I am to you for many pleasant visits there, as well as for the other favours to which I have already alluded, I can only entreat that you will accept the renewed assurances of esteem and gratitude, from,

Dear and Very Reverend Sir,

Your obliged and faithful servant,

WILLIAM ATTHILL.

The Deanery, Middleham, Yorkshire,
Jan. 1, 1847.

PREFACE.

THE desire which so generally prevails at the present day of illustrating the ecclesiastical annals of our country, and of recording whatever may be interesting or valuable in the pious and munificent institutions of our ancestors, has led to the production of the present volume.

The College of Middleham, one of the very few religious foundations which escaped the sacrilegious rapacity of the Eighth Henry, seems doomed at length, after an existence of nearly four centuries from the date of incorporation by its royal founder, to sink beneath the more specious but no less positive sacrilege of the nineteenth century.

To preserve some faint memorials of this establishment, for which the princely Gloucester procured privileges and immunities rivalling those of Windsor,* and exceeding those of any other ecclesiastical institution in the kingdom; to save from the decay into which ere long they might otherwise have fallen, some most interesting documents of bygone days; to rescue from oblivion the few notices which may still be collected of its history; and to throw every possible light on the exemptions and liberties of a jurisdiction, which, with every other PECULIAR throughout

* See Introduction, *infra*, p. 28, note.

"Merrie England," soon will have passed away—these are the primary objects of the editor of the present volume; should it, however, be instrumental in preserving the faintest memorial, the most trifling remnant, of an establishment for the incorporation of which its royal founder laboured so assiduously, he will consider himself well repaid.

The sources from which this brief history of the collegiate church of Middleham has been drawn, are fully detailed in the notes appended to the foot of each page; and no available source has been left uninvestigated to render it at once correct and interesting.

Amongst the mass of materials which the Editor has searched for these ends, it is possible some few facts may have escaped his notice, but he can confidently assert that not one statement has been put forward which does not rest on sufficient authority; and, however others may differ from him in opinion on the inferences to be drawn, the data upon which those conclusions rest must remain unimpeached; and perhaps, when, in a few short years at most, he shall sleep with those who have preceded him as ministers in its collegiate church, this little volume may form the basis of some more interesting and perfect history of a place, of which a distinguished and attractive writer* of the present day says, "MIDDLEHAM—not Windsor, nor Shene, nor Westminster, nor the Tower—seemed the Court of England."†

Although it is the principal design of the present volume to give a brief history of the church and parish of Middleham, from the period that, under the auspices of Richard duke of Gloucester, it was erected into a college and deanery, still it seems desirable,

* Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart.

† Last of the Barons, vol. ii. p. 160.

before the editor proceeds with his allotted task, to throw together in this place a few memoranda of its earlier condition.

Middleham, or as it is called in Domesday, Medelai,* formed a portion of those extensive possessions which the Conqueror bestowed on his nephew Alan Rufus, earl of Bretagne, first earl of Richmond, and lord of Middleham, after the conquest of England. Alan, who died without issue A.D. 1089, gave the manor and honor of Middleham, with its appurtenances, and various other lands which, in the time of the Confessor, belonged to Ghilpatric, a Dane, to his youngest brother Ribald, whose grandson Robert† built the castle of Middleham.

"Contiguous to a castle of this period," says Whitaker,‡ "was almost always a church. The village of Middleham had none before; as a member of a parish in the Saxon times, it must have been attached to Wensley. With equal probability, therefore, we may ascribe to Ribald both the one and the other." And in another place§ he remarks, "All this while" (*i. e.* at the period when Robert de Neville, called the Peacock of the North,‖ who died previously to the year 1331, was lord of Middleham,) "we hear nothing of a church at Middleham, nor till the following instrument; but there can be little doubt that it was the work of one of the first lords, who endowed it with an ample glebe, and as

* "The land of earl Alan, Medelai (Middleham), to be taxed five carucates, and there may be three ploughs. Ghile Patrick had a manor there; Ribald now has it, and it is waste. The whole one mile long and one broad, value in king Edward's time twenty shillings." Bawdwen's (Rev. W.) Translation of Domesday, p. 108.

† "Robertus hic tempore suo fundavit et ædificavit Castrum de Middelham." Inter Collectiones Dodsworthii in Bibliotheca Harl. See Gale's Honor of Richmond, Appendix, pp. 233, 234.

‡ Whitaker's Richmondshire, vol. i. p. 343.

§ Ibid. p. 332.

‖ Dugdale's Baronage, vol. i. p. 292.

usual with the tithes of the town." Such is Dr. Whitaker's statement, and the instrument he mentions is given below.*

* "Omnibus hanc cartam indentatam visuris vel audituris Radulphus Comes Westmerlandiæ Dominus de Nevill et Marescallus Angliæ salutem in Domino sempiternam. Sciatis nos quandam cartam indentatam Mariæ de Nevill quondam Dominæ de Midilham, antecessoris nostræ, cuidam Domino Johanni Rectori ecclesiæ de Midilham prædicta et successoribus suis factam, inspexisse in hæc verba. UNIVERSIS Christi fidelibus ad quorum notitiam præsentes literæ pervenerint, Maria de Nevill Domina de Middilham salutem in Domino sempiternam. Noverit universitas vestra me in pura viduitate ac ligea potestate mea, concessisse et præsenti scripto meo cyrographato confirmasse Domino Johanni Rectori ecclesiæ de Middilham et successoribus suis communiam pasturæ per totum annum ad octo boves et duo jumenta, in bosco meo de Middilham qui vocatur Westwode exceptis clausis meis separabilibus in prædicto bosco existentibus, ubi prædictus Dominus Johannes et successores sui non solebant habere nisi tantum sex boves et duo jumenta: habendum et tenendum prædicto Domino Johanni et successoribus suis prædictam communiam pasturæ ad octo boves et duo jumenta prædicta in prædicto bosco, exceptis duobus clausis in eodem bosco existentibus dummodo permanserint clausa, de me et heredibus meis liberè, quietè, benè et in pace cum pertinentiis suis imperpetuum ; decimis fœni in prædictis duobus clausis prædicto Domino Johanni et successoribus suis in omnibus sibi salvis. Et si contingat quod aliqua averia de prædictis octo bobus et duobus jumentis prædicti Domini Johannis vel successorum suorum, in prædictis duobus clausis pro defectu clausuræ aliquo tempore intraverint et absque wardo facto, sine gravamine et reparatione retractentur. Et prædictus Dominus Johannes pro se et successoribus suis, prædictæ Dominæ Mariæ et hæredibus suis totum jus et clameum communis in prædictis duobus clausis in bosco prædicto dummodo clausa permanserint penitus relaxat. Et quam cito prædicta duo clausa pro non clausis teneantur prædictis Domino Johanne et successoribus suis, ad statum communis pasturæ sex boum et duorum jumentorum prius habitorum revertantur. In cujus rei testimonium præsenti scripto cyrographato alternatim sigilla sua apposuerunt. Hiis testibus, Willelmo de Burgo tunc Ballivo Richemundiæ, et aliis. Datum apud Middilham die Sancti Jacobi Apostoli, anno Domini Millesimo tricentesimo decimo.——Quam quidem cartam ac omnia et singula in eadem carta contenta Ricardo de Pykering nunc Rectori Ecclesiæ de Middilham prædictæ et successoribus suis secundum formam cartæ prædictæ indentatæ, approbamus, confirmamus et ratificamus firmiter per præsentes. In cujus rei testimonium uni parti hujus cartæ indentatæ, penes prædictum Ricardum et successores suos remanenti, sigillum nostrum apposuimus ; alteri vero parti penes nos et hæredes nostros remanenti, dictus Ricardus sigillum suum apposuit. Datum apud Raby vicesimo nono die mensis Decembris, Anno Domini Millesimo, quadringentesimo, quinto et regni regis Henrici quarti post conquestum septimo."—Middleham MSS.

There are, however, documents in existence in which a church at Middleham is mentioned at a much earlier period than the reign of Henry IV.

In the taxation made by authority of pope Nicholas IV. about the year 1291, there is the following entry :*—

	Antiq. Tax.	Nov. Tax.
" Ecclesia de Middelham .	£8 0 0	5 0 0"

Again in the "Nonarum Inquisitiones in Curia Scaccarii, temp. Edw. III."†

" Middelham.
Taxatio iiii *li.*

Iidem receperunt de iiij *li.* de nona ejusdem parochiæ commissa Ricardo del Parsons, Johanni Generall, Ricardo de Mangeby, et Ricardo de Waynebrigg, et sic minus taxatione de iiij *li.* quia iiij. carucæ jacent friscæ quæ si essent cultæ nona valuerit liij*s.* iiij*d.* ubi Rector solet percipere xij. petras lanæ pretii xxxvj*s.* et xx. agnos pretii vij*s.* vj*d.* prout compertum est per sacramentum hominum prædictorum. Summa iiij *li.*"

While from the Inquisitions post mortem in the same and the succeeding reigns, the following extracts are subjoined :

" A°. 41 Edw. III. Rad'us de Nevill.
Midelham advoc' Ecclesiæ." ‡
" A°. 12 Ric. II. Joh'es de Nevill de Raby, et Elizabetha uxor ejus.
Middelham maner' cum advoc' Ecclesiæ extent'." §

It was the son of the Sir John de Neville here named, by his former wife Maud, daughter of the Lord Percy, from whom emanated the important instrument already given.

* Taxatio Ecclesiastica Angliæ et Walliæ, auctoritate P. Nicholai IV. circa A.D. 1291. London, 1802, folio, p. 307. See also pp. 327, 337.

† Nonarum Inquisitiones, p. 237. Lond. 1807, folio.

‡ Calendarium Inquisitionum post Mortem, vol. ii. p. 282. Lond. 1806, folio.

§ Ibid. vol. iii. p. 103.

This Ralph de Neville, having first won the golden spurs of knighthood, was in the 21st year of Rich. II. created Earl of Westmoreland, and subsequently received from Henry IV. a grant of the earldom of Richmond ;* and under him the power and grandeur of his race seems to have attained a high degree of eminence, having died possessed of the castle and lordship of Middleham, † as well as many other extensive territorial possessions.‡ His widow Joane, daughter of John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster, who died Nov. 13, 19 Hen. VI. most undoubtedly possessed, with the castle, the advowson of the church. This is evident from the following record : §—

" Johanna nuper comitissa Westmoreland.
Middelham advoc' Ecclesiæ. }
Middelham Castr', maner' et domin' } Ebor."

With the lordship and castle, the advowson of the church subsequently passed into the hands of the renowned Richard earl of

* " Notwithstanding this grant, Ralph Neville never assumed the title of Earl of Richmond." Nicolas's Synopsis of the Peerage, p. 536, from Third Peerage Report, p. 102.

† " About the 12th of Ric. II. he obtained the King's charter for a weekly market every Monday at his manor of Middleham, as also a yearly fair at that place at the feast day of St. Alkeld the Virgin, the patron saint of that place."

‡ He lies interred under a stately tomb in the church of Staindrop, adjoining to Raby, in the co. Durham. Whitaker says (i. 345), that " under this earl the power and splendour of the Neviles had attained to a height from which they subsequently declined ;" that " he was the last of the Neviles in the right line who was seised of Middleham and of its dependencies," and that " henceforth we hear no more of the first line of the Neviles at Middleham." On this latter point Surtees says (Hist. of Durham, iv. 152), " The Yorkshire castles of Middleham and Sheriff Hutton, and many a dependent manor, and many a fair southern lordship, were settled on the issue of the first earl's second princely alliance." It must, however, be remembered that the splendour of the second line of Neville, which succeeded to Middleham, greatly surpassed that of the first ; and that the grandson of this earl—the inheritor of this castle and its attendant domains—by his union with the heiress of the house of Warwick, elevated the race of Neville to the highest pitch of magnificence and power.

§ Calendarium Inquis. post Mort. vol. iv. p. 206.

Warwick, and at length, as will hereafter be shewn,* became eventually vested in Richard duke of Gloucester.

Prior however to that period, on the 25th of Jan. in the ninth year of Edw. IV. the king granted licence† to John Cartmell to found a chantry of our Lady in the church of Middleham, to pray for the soul of the founder ‡ and all Christian souls.

This chantry, forming the eastern portion of the south aisle, from which it is now separated by rails, as it formerly was by a screen, and extending more than half the entire length of the choir, to which it is united by an arch, filled with a recently erected parclose, seems to have been founded and endowed on the 21st day of July, A°. 10 Edw. IV. a few months after the grant of the royal licence.

The following interesting particulars relating to it, are extracted at full length from Whitaker's Richmondshire : §—

"THE CHAUNTRYE OF OUR LADYE IN THE PARYSHE CHURCHE OF MYDDELHAM.

Robert Ambler, incumbent, of the aige of lxvi. yeres, lerned, of honest conversacion and qualities, having no other promocions but onelye the revenewe of his sayde chauntrye; also there is one other pryst‖ in the sayd paryshe at the fynding of the parson there; the same chauntrye is within the sayd churche, the necessite thereof is to minister sacraments, having ccxxx. howselyng people in the sayde paryshe: there is no lands sold ne alyenated sithe the xxiii. day of November, a°. reg. r. nuper Hen. VIII. xxxvii.

* See Introd. infra, pp. 1, 4.

† "Pro Cantar. Joh'is Chartmele de Midlham." Middleham MSS. See also Calendarium Rot. Pat. (in Turre Londinensi), p. 315.

‡ "There was a chantry here, at the altar of St. Mary, for the soul of John Cartmell, sometime rector of this church." Lawton's Collections, vol. ii. p. 568.

§ Vol. i. p. 341.

‖ There can be little doubt that this "one other pryst" here alluded to was the minister for divine services and offices of whom mention will be found in the Introduction, p. 29.

The yerely value of the same as shall appere by the particlers of the same . . . . . vi*l.*

In reprisis yerely going furthe of the same . . . xii*s.*

And so remaneth clere . . . . . cviii*s.*

Goods, ornaments, and plate pertening to the same, as apperith by inventory, viz., goods . . . . . , plate xiii ounces, parcell gilte.

The Chauntrye of our Ladye in the Parysshe Churche of Myddelham.

Robert Ambler, incumbent, of the foundacion of John Cartemele, to th'entent to praye for the soule of the founder and all christen soules, and to helpe to do dyvine servyce in the sayde churche, and to kepe one yerely obyte to the charge of xiii*s.* iiii*d.* as apperyth by foundacion dated xxi. die Junii, Anno reg. R. E. 4. decimo.

The same is wythyn the said church, and the necessitye is to pray for the soule of the founder, and all christen soules, and to do dyvyne servyce in the sayde churche; and the same is observed and kepte accordinglye. There is no lands or tenementes, solde, alienated, put awey, or entryd into sithens the statute.

Goodes, ornaments, and plate perteynyng to the same chauntrye as apperyth by inventory, that is to seye, goodes valued at xxiiii*s.* ii*d.* *ob.* and plate xlviii*s.*

Goodes	xxiiii*s.* ii*d.* *ob.*
Plate	xlviii*s.*
Firste, a certen yerely rent of vi*l.* comyng out of the late monasterye of Seynt Agatha,* paid by the late lorde Scrope, a fermor of the said late monasterye, comying forth of the landes and tenementes in Huddeswell, Tunstall, and Scotton . . .	vi*l.* wherof
Paiable yerely to the kinges majestie for the tenthes	xii*s.*
And so remayneth clere . . .	cviii*s.*"

* "Cantaria de Mydleham, Robertus Anmer incumbens.

Denariis numeratis de monasterio sanctæ Agathæ - - £vi

Quæ valet clare.

X^ma^ pars inde - - - - xij "

Valor Ecclesiasticus, vol. v. p. 249.

But this was not the only religious foundation then existing; there was another, although not within the church, yet within the parish of Middleham. Of this not a vestige now remains, nor did there even in Dugdale's day; for in speaking of the college, he adds,* "All that we know of an hospital here is from Leland, who in his Itinerary says there is at the est end of Middleham a little hospital, with a chapel of Jesus." Some fields, however, not far from the eastern extremity of the town, retain to the present day the name of "Chapel-fields," the only existing memorial of its desecration. Doubtless chantry, hospital, and chapel all sank beneath the rapacious hand of him who styled himself "Fidei Defensor." And their places are now *worthily* supplied by the Union workhouse, and two barn-like conventicles!

"Hei! quantum mutatus ab illo."
"Proh! pudor inversique mores."

The venerable church, however, still rears its embattled tower on the summit of a gentle eminence overlooking the beautiful and verdant valley of the Yore, and bearing though it does the weather-stain of ages, seems capable of enduring for centuries yet to come. Long may its beautiful peal of bells† fling their sounds of melody abroad, inviting ever and anon those who hear them, to worship within the walls of that hallowed fane, where our pure branch of the holy catholic church offers to Almighty God the daily sacrifice of prayer and praise!

* Monasticon, vol. vi. p. 781.

† There were formerly but three bells in the tower. The present excellent peal of six was (A.D. 1824), with all the contingent expenses, the munificent gift to the parish of Middleham of the late John Breare, Esq. of Middleham Hall, now represented by his nephew and successor Christopher Topham, Esq.

Dr. Whitaker,* speaking of this structure, remarks that "of the original fabric of the church scarcely a vestige remains, save a few fragments in the tower. The present building is plain and handsome, of rather late Gothic, and not very ample dimensions; but it contains some very curious objects and matters of difficult speculation."

Through the kindness, however, of an eminent archæologist, who has in the most handsome manner placed his beautiful and erudite MS. journal at the disposal of the Editor, he is enabled to add the following valuable and interesting details of the sacred edifice :—

"When Richard III. possessed the castle, he raised the rectory to a deanery, and intended to build a college,† but his purpose was frustrated by death. The church was never rebuilt in the usual cruciform collegiate shape; but is of the ordinary form, with a western tower. The south aisle extends more than half way along the choir, ‡ and there is an original vestry on the north side.

"The only portion of the present church which can be decisively pronounced Norman is a fragment of a zig-zagged moulding, which has been round either a door or a window, and is now inserted high up in the exterior of the north aisle. This stone is quite

* Richmondshire, i. 333.

† A field at no great distance from the church still bears the name of Foundation Close, where it is said the foundations of the college had actually been laid at the period of Richard's premature decease. "If this were intended for the collegiate building," remarks Whitaker, i. 338, "and the church were meant to remain where it was, however convenient such an arrangement would have been for the castle and town, it must have been very incommodious to the dean and canons. Yet there are such instances: the college of Manchester is at a considerable distance from the collegiate church, and that of Kirk-Oswald still farther, but neither so remote as the Foundation Field from the church of Middleham."

‡ The eastern portion joining the choir is the ancient chantry.

enough to shew how erroneous Whitaker was, when he asserted there were no remains of a church built by the Norman lords.*

"It will be perceived on a careful examination that there are abundant evidences of the shell of the present building being early-English, for, though the mouldings are meagre and deficient, still some exist which are decisive on the point. The tower arch, the arches of the nave, and the main walls of the choir, are all very clearly early-English. The tower arch dies into the walls; its mouldings, as well as those of the other arches, are merely chamfered; and, if that were the only feature to judge by, it would be vain to assign any particular date to these portions, but the abacus of the capitals in the nave is fortunately very decidedly early-English in its character. The jambs of the doorway in the south aisle of the nave are also very clearly early-English, with somewhat later mouldings than the other portions of this style: the arch has been inserted. The height of the early-English chancel appears from the north side, where the corbel-table which was under the parapet is perfect the whole length. The east end is flanked by early-English buttresses, and there is another in the centre. Beneath the present east window are two low plain square windows (now blocked up), which have been considered by some to be the windows of a former crypt; but from careful measurement I conceive that this is quite impossible, and that the arrangement of the east end consisted of four lights, two above other two, similar to the plan to be seen in the chancel and transepts of the church of Darlington.

"In the fourteenth century several alterations in the Decorated style, then prevalent, were made. The end windows of the north

* Vol. i. p. 343.

and south aisles, the nave clerestory, the sacristy on the north of the choir, the two square windows above the early-English corbel-table before referred to, and the great east window (which is remarkable as having *four* lights), of flowing tracery, are of this date.

"The Perpendicular additions consist of the western tower (which is very good), the side windows of the north and south aisles (very late), and the porch.

"Of the Debased style are the remains of the stalls, cut up and inserted in the modern pews.

"Such is a brief history of the architecture of Middleham collegiate church: let us now proceed to its various ornaments, not noticed in the above sketch.

"In the tower about half way up is a stone fire-place,* which appears to be of very late date, and is partly composed of ancient tomb-stones. One has an elaborate cross, sword, and wand sculptured on it; another, a part of a cross and keys; and a third, with the base of a cross and sword, the inscription—"**Robert' Messam.**" There is also part of a sculptured tomb-stone, with a base of a cross, built into the lower part of the tower. In a recent clearing of the formerly blocked tower-arch, were taken out a stone with a cross patée, and also part of a figure, which has either been an image or a sepulchral effigy.

"In the western part of the nave stands the font—a modern circular basin, with a good, though plain, florid cover, curiously painted. The roof has been underdrawn within the last century. There are marks of screens across the whole church, on the two piers of the nave, first from the east; and when the rood-screen

* "The belfry chamber has a fire-place, about which are wrought up several fragments of the first church. A fragment of one grave-stone in particular has cut upon it two keys, emblems of the office of some ancient constable of the castle." Whitaker, Richm. i. 334.

was also remaining, this part of the nave must have possessed a peculiarly gorgeous and imposing appearance.

"At the south of these two piers formerly stood an altar-tomb, supposed to be that of St. Alkelda, on which payments of money were required to be made (as on the tomb of John Haxby, in York Cathedral); this remained within the memory of man. The pulpit now stands nearly on the same spot.

"The choir is occupied by some new stalls for the canons, in lieu of the original ones demolished by a former dean.* There is under the altar-steps a portion of a brass inscription, nearly obliterated; a line seems to be hid by the steps, the part seen appears to be—

"Hic jacet magist' thomas Wynh'm frat'
ordinis * * * * *

The corner pieces of brass are all lost. A stone within the altar-rails bears marks of a black letter inscription, but it is completely illegible: Along the south wall of the choir is a large rude recess cut out, which probably had a seat and served as the sedilia; at the east end of it is a piscina (lately opened out), in an unusual position. The whole of the elevation on which the communion table stands is modern. The roof of the choir is described as having been of black oak, pannelled, but is unfortunately underdrawn, similarly to the rest of the church; there are vestiges of a cross on the choir gable.

"North Aisle.—In the tops of the side windows are old tombstones cut up, one has a good early wheel-cross and chalice; the west window is a small square one grated.

"In the east window of the south aisle are five good heads in the stained-glass fragments; one a peculiarly fine one, nimbed,

* See Introd. *infra*, p. 33.

but no connected subject is now to be discovered. The passion of St. Alkelda was depicted here, glowing "in colours richly dight," and her own figure yet remains, with a napkin twisted round her neck. This east window, near which is a candle-bracket, is in that part which is comprised in the choir portion of the church; and here was the chantry of our Blessed Lady, founded by John Cartmele. At the extreme west end of this aisle is placed upright a fine slab, which formerly rested on four pillars, in another part of the church.* From the legend it must have come from Jervaulx Abbey, but when is not recorded; it reads—

> Orate. pro. a'i'a. dompni. Roberti. Thorneton. abbat'.
> hui'. domi. Jorevaulis. vicesimi Sc'di.

Between each word are thorn leaves, at the bottom of the stone more than usual; the diapering of the centre is also composed of *thorn* leaves, which, with a *tun*, form a rebus on the name. Out of the tun springs a pastoral staff, behind which is a mitre, and at the sides the initials "R. T." On two shields at the top, hung by bands, are devices, one the usual monogram—"ihc"—the other an M with spear and sponge. The whole is in good preservation.

"There is nothing remarkable about the sacristy. In the porch there is a three-foiled niche above the outer door-way, and a mutilated bracket in the north-east corner of the porch itself.

* "A huge flat stone, lately removed from the neighbourhood of the pulpit, which is really the tomb of Robert Thornton, 22nd abbat of Jervaulx." [A.D.1510.] . . . . . "What account can be given of the removal of so massy a stone, and of its being found in a parish church wholly unconnected with the abbey? It is certain Thornton had not long been dead at the Dissolution; and, if he were a native of Middleham, and had friends surviving there, it is not improbable that his remains and his gravestone were removed together on that event to a situation where they might be protected, and where he might thenceforward sleep among his friends." Whitaker's Richmondshire, i. 334.

GRAVESTONE OF ROBERT THORNETON,

THE 22D ABBOT OF JERVAULX.

"At the deanery is a gothic door bearing Decorated mouldings; it perhaps belonged to a rectory house converted into the deanery, (as was the vicarage at Darlington); in the wall of an adjoining out-house, attached to the same, is a curious tomb-stone, only 1 foot 9 inches long, with two wheel-crosses of unusual design, which probably commemorated two children.

"Let into the rear of a dwelling, opposite the principal front of the castle, are also two mutilated sculptures; one a pheasant or peacock, the other apparently a stone rood, with the Saviour extended on the cross between St. Mary and St. John, or perhaps the two Marys."

In a volume like this, professedly devoted to ecclesiastical matters, it may seem for a moment irrelevant to introduce any details merely of a secular nature; yet, associated as the castle of Middleham was with both the earlier and later fortunes of its church, it is impossible to pass it over altogether unnoticed.

It has been already observed that the massive and gloomy Keep, forming the original pile, and still surviving the lapse of centuries, was the work of Robert Fitz-Randolph, third lord of Middleham. From him it passed in regular succession to his lineal descendants, male and female, until it came into the hands of king Henry VI. on the forfeiture of Richard Neville earl of Salisbury.* After that

* Richard Neville, earl of Salisbury, was the eldest son of Ralph Neville, earl of Westmoreland, K.G. by his second wife Joane, daughter of John of Gaunt. From marrying Alice, the daughter and heir of Thomas de Montacute, earl of Salisbury, K.G. he was created earl of Salisbury, and was appointed lord great chamberlain of England, 39 Hen. VI. but was beheaded at York shortly afterwards. His eldest son Richard, K.G. acquired the earldom of Warwick by marrying Anne, sister and heir to Henry duke of Warwick, and is celebrated in the history of England as the "King-maker," from his great influence and power. Testamenta Vetusta, p. 287; Halsted's Rich. III. i. 115, 116.

event the castle, with an annuity of 100 marks accruing from certain manors in Wensleydale, was granted by the king (a° 38 Hen. VI.) to sir John Neville (brother to Ralph first earl of Westmoreland, and uncle to the earl of Salisbury) as constable for life, but the feudal fortress, with all its vast domains, manors, and retainers, on the accession of Edward IV. reverted to its rightful heir, the renowned Richard earl of Salisbury and Warwick; and after his untimely death, at the battle of Barnet, was allotted to Richard duke of Gloucester, who had married the lady Anne Neville, Warwick's younger daughter.

"Some interesting scenes of English history have taken place in and around this castle. Hence the earl of Salisbury marched through Craven at the head of 4,000 Richmondshire men to the battle of Bloreheath. Here, too, according to Stow, the bastard Falconbridge was beheaded, A.D. 1471. On a neighbouring plain, Edward IV. having been committed to the charge of archbishop George Neville, at Middleham, being indulged with the privilege of hunting, and having probably bribed his keepers, escaped on a fleet horse to York, and thence to Lancaster, where he resumed the government. Here Edward, son of Richard III. was born; and here the father, green in years but old in craft and cruelty, amidst the sports of the field or the appearances of devotion, meditated no doubt some of those tragedies which time and prejudice have left so mysterious."*

* Whitaker's Richmondshire, i. 348.

Modern research has, however, considerably modified these statements. It has been discovered from the Fœdera, that Edward IV. while said to be the prisoner of archbishop Neville, was at full liberty, and doing acts of regal power: while the biographer of Richard III. if she has not completely removed from *his* character every stain, has at least adduced sufficient evidence to create serious doubts of his alleged crimes in every reflecting mind.

With respect to the edifice itself very few particulars can be given.*

The small remains of this once magnificent castle stand on the south side of the town. It consists of an outwork fortified with four towers, inclosing a body or keep. This envelope is in figure a right-angled parallelogram of 210 feet by 175; its greatest length running north and south, and each of its sides forming one of the cardinal points of the compass. As a specimen of architecture Middleham is an unique but not a happy work. The Norman keep, the fortress of the first lords, not being sufficient for the vast trains and princely habits of the Nevilles, was inclosed by a complete quadrangle, which almost entirely darkened what was dark enough before, and the first structure now stands completely insulated in the centre of a later work.

This building, which is much higher than the outwork, is of a shape similar to it. The main building is unequally divided by a wall which runs from north to south, and here still remain the broken stairs.

The entrance into this castle was by a very strong arched gateway on the north side. The remnants of a moat † now appear on the south and east; but the ditch is daily filling up with weeds and rubbish: the leaden pipes, for the conveyance of water, were taken up within the memory of the mother of a person now living. In 1663 it appears as if the castle was occupied by

* The following memorials of the castle and town have been principally collected from Whitaker's Richmondshire, i. 342; Maude's Wensleydale, pp. 79, 80; White's History of the North Riding of Yorkshire, pp. 617, 618; and the Gentleman's Magazine, lxxxiv. part ii. p. 318.

† Since the above was written the moat is completely filled up, and not a trace of it now remains. This has been done within the last twenty years.

lord Loftus,* who probably held it by lease from the crown, where the property seems to be.† The duke of Leeds holds the sinecure office of "Governor of Middleham Castle;" and, as chief bailiff of Richmondshire, he holds here a court baron and view of frank pledge for suits under 40*s*.

As it is,—majestic in decay,—Middleham Castle is the noblest work of man in the county of Richmond. Without any natural strength, except that of standing upon a little elevated rock, the views up and down Wensleydale are delightful; but at a time when little gratification was taken in by the eye, the idea of property would supersede the feelings of taste, and the Nevilles would survey with pleasure the ample domains around them, not because they were picturesque or beautiful, but because they were their own.

A word on the town itself ere this preface draws to a close. Middleham is situated on a gentle rising ground in the most fertile and open part of Wensleydale, a short distance from the south bank of the river Yore, in the wapentake of Hangwest, and is a small but ancient and well-built market town, containing several neat mansions occupied by respectable families.‡ As a place of trade it never had any high interest; but on the adjacent moor, which has long been famed as a school of the turf, many celebrated racers have been trained.§ With the exception of the church and

* See Introduction, *infra*, p. 26.

† "Whether the lord of the manor is really owner of the castle does not seem very certain; at all events the Darcys, earls of Holderness, have long held the constableship of the castle by grant from the crown, in consequence of which that office, a mere name, is now vested in his grace the duke of Leeds." Whitaker's Richmondshire, i. 349.

‡ The population of Middleham, according to Whitaker (i. 349), was, in 1811, 714: by the last census, taken in 1841, it had increased to 930.

§ The following passage from a letter written in 1537 shews in what estimation this district was then held for the breed of horses:—"The king's highness (Henry VIII.) is at

castle, it does not possess many objects of interest. In the market place there is an ancient cross, and in the upper part of the town is a curious flight of double steps, with a recumbent figure on one side: this is now so mutilated as almost to baffle inquiry; but it has been suggested by an antiquarian friend that it might represent the bear, a portion of the cognizance of the earl of Warwick. With greater probability, however, it may be assumed as the emblem of the silver boar, which, it is well known, was the peculiar badge of Richard duke of Gloucester. This surmise is borne out by the circumstance of that portion of the town still retaining the name of "the Swine Market;" and it has been stated by some of the older inhabitants that, in their earlier days, the figure, then in tolerable preservation, was a boar.* Middleham still contains one or two Tudor houses; but within the last few years several of the most ancient edifices have been pulled down.

Its neighbourhood, however, is rich not alone in objects of antiquarian and historic lore, but also in the beauty and richness of its natural scenery; and possessing, as it does, most comfortable accommodation for the tourist, seems a spot well adapted, from its central situation, for a resting-place to the lover of the one or the

great charge with his studs of mares at Thornborough and other places, which are fine grounds; and I think that at Jervaulx and in the granges incident, with the help of their great large commons, the king's highness by good overseers should have there the most best pasture that should be in England, hard and sound of kind. For assuredly the breed of Jervaulx for horses was the tried breed of the north; the stallions and mares so well sorted that I think in no realm should we find the like to them, for there is high and large grounds for the summer, and low grounds to serve them."

* This figure bears a strong resemblance, even in its present dilapidated condition, to the couchant boar on which Richard III. and his son Edward Prince of Wales are represented as standing in an engraving, copied from a MS. in the College of Arms, and prefixed to the second volume of Halsted's Richard III.

admirer of the other: while he who fortunately is blessed with a taste for both may revel for days on the interesting and attractive objects in its vicinity.

Westward are the yet perfect remains of Bolton Castle, where the lovely and hapless Mary Stuart was erst a prisoner in the keeping of the lordly Scrope; and still the spot is pointed out, bearing the name of the Queen's Gap, where this victim of misfortune was recaptured when endeavouring to escape from her prison home.

Westward, also, are the beautiful church of Wensley, the recently discovered ruins of a preceptory of Knights Templars, and the far-famed and romantic Aysgarth Force, with the adjacent church, each of which will amply repay a visit.

North is the magnificent natural terrace known by the name of Leyburn Shawl; and within a drive Richmond Castle, with its lofty and massive keep, as fresh and sharply chiseled as when, seven hundred years ago, earl Conan, laying its foundation upon the rocky bank of the Swale, reared that huge square tower, the walls of which, with their pinnacled turrets, have braved the dilapidating hand of time, and retain at this day their original dimensions and stability.

South are the remnants of Coverham Abbey, where some of Middleham's earliest lords lie entombed; and in a sequestered spot, close by the romantic bed of the Cover, the little known, but curious fragments of St. Simon's chapel and holy well. While eastward are the extensive and well kept ruins of the once splendid abbey of Jervaulx; and further still, the castle and church of Tanfield, where lie enshrined the renowned lords Marmion, each under his marble sepulchre. These for the antiquary alone; but for him who loves to read from Nature's book, and

delights in the works of his Creator, all Wensleydale abounds with the picturesque and the beautiful. There are lofty dells and heath-clad mountains—there are hanging woods and precipitous rocks; rivers winding, like the beauteous Yore, through the rich and verdant meadows which gird its margin; or, as the Cover, foaming and tearing its way over rocks and stones, far, far beneath the feet of him who stands on the summit of its precipitous and wood-bound banks.

But here the editor must pause, nor indulge longer in expatiating on those most interesting subjects which constitute his chiefest sources of amusement, and which have contributed to solace and to cheer him in many a sad hour of solitude and sorrow.

In conclusion,* he cannot close this preface without returning his sincere thanks to those friends who have aided him in his undertaking; among the many whom he could name, they are principally due to Miss C. A. Halsted, the biographer of Richard III.† who, even before he had the pleasure of her personal acquaintance, generously placed her valuable MS. collections at his disposal.

He is also deeply indebted to the Rev. G. C. Tomlinson, F.R.S., the incumbent of Coverham, not merely for perusing the transcript

* It ought not to be passed over without notice, that, much to the credit of the successive deans and registrars of Middleham—in whose custody they are deposited—the many important documents, comprising royal and ecclesiastical licences, grants, and charters (duplicates of which are to be found in the various state-paper offices in London), together with the other muniments belonging to this deanery, have been kept with the most scrupulous care, and are at the present day in most excellent preservation, although extending over a period of nearly 450 years!

† "Richard III. as Duke of Gloucester and King of England." 2 vols. 8vo. Longmans and Co. 1844. A work abounding in deep research and valuable information, however opinions may differ on the conclusions at which the author has arrived.

of his MS., but also for much important local information, and for the use of several rare and valuable works; to W. G. J. Barker, Esq., of Harmby, for his ready aid in collating ancient documents, and furnishing him with extracts from his notes, collected with reference to an intended work on the antiquities of Wensleydale; and to William Hylton Longstaffe, Esq., of Norton, the use of whose Archæological Journal has already been gratefully acknowledged.

To these, and to the authorities of the British Museum, from whom he experienced every facility in the prosecution of his researches, he desires to return those acknowledgements which are so justly due.

The editor trusts that the professional avocations which necessarily caused his absence from London during the time that this book was passing through the press will be accepted as an apology for any casual inaccuracies which may be discovered. Owing, however, to the great kindness of the Messrs. Nichols, who are ever ready and desirous to promote the objects of the Camden Society, these, it is hoped, will be found but few and of little consequence; and he sends forth this volume to that society with an earnest wish that it may prove, albeit a small, yet not an unacceptable addition to the ecclesiastical annals of our country.

W. A.

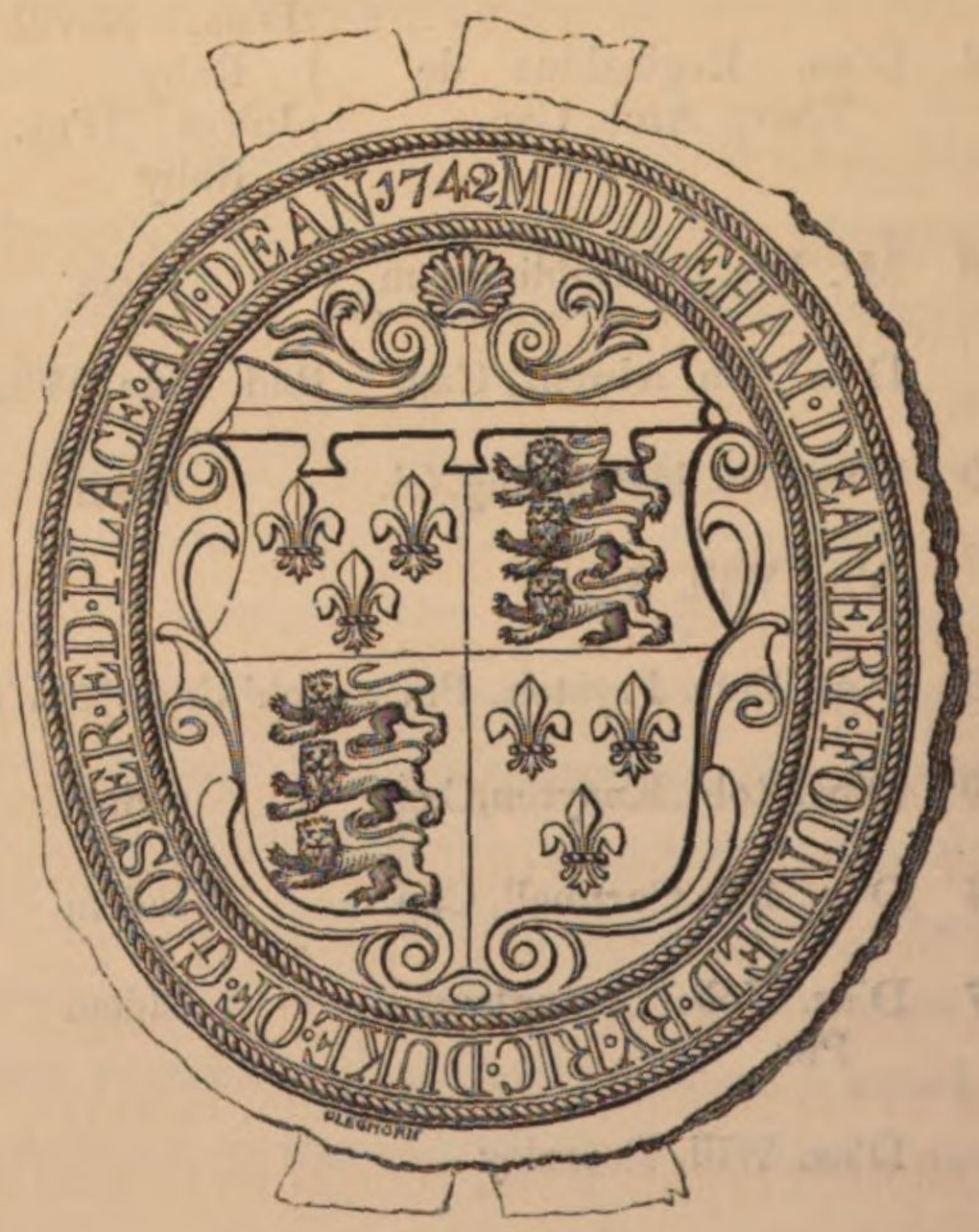
The Deanery, Middleham,
January 1, 1847.

THE RECTORS OF MIDDLEHAM

BEFORE ITS ERECTION INTO A COLLEGIATE CHURCH.

Temp. Institut.	Rectores.	Patroni.	Vacat.
26 Apr. 1372	D'ns. Reginaldus de Thorp Arch, Cap.	D'ns. Nevill de Raby Joh'es D'ns. de Raby	
17 July, 1378	Mr. Ric. de Yeddingham	idem	p' resig.
	D'ns. Joh. Alwent, Cap.	Rad. Com. W'land	p' resig.
23 Oct. 1399	D'ns. Ric. de Pykering, Cl.	idem	
	D'ns. Will. Reson		p' mort.
2 Mar. 1426	D'ns. Petr. Fryston, Pbr.	Joh' Com^{tissa} W'land	p' resig.
22 Sep. 1430	D'ns. Robt. Knayton, Cap.	eadem	p' resig.
15 Dec. 1434	D'ns. Joh. Cartmell, Cap.	eadem	p' resig.
10 Dec. 1437	D'ns. Joh. Strangland, Pbr.	eadem	
	D'ns. Will. Beverley		p' prom.

Torre's Peculiars, p. 1350.


SIGILL·COMMUNE·BURGENSIUM·DE·MIDDLEHAM·IN·COMITATU·EBORACENSI
BURGUS·DE·MIDDLEHAM·IN·COMITATU·EBORACENSI·FUNDATUS·PER·RICUM·DUCEM·GLOUCESTRIÆ·ANNO·DOMINI·1477
SIGILLUM·COMMUNE·LIBERI·BURGENSIUM·DE·MIDDLEHAM·IN·COMITATU·EBORACENSI·FUNDATUM·PER·RICUM·DUCEM·GLOUCESTRIÆ·ANNO·DOMINI·1477

INTRODUCTION.

FORMER publications * of the Camden Society have brought before our notice Richard Duke of Gloucester, as continually engaged in the intrigues of a court or the storms of civil war, while for four centuries both his person and character have been the theme of almost universal vituperation. Into these subjects it is not the province of the editor of the present volume to enter; and, in truth, there is now the less occasion for it, since the volumes of Miss Halsted have appeared in the field of literature. This talented and zealous writer has adduced a host of authorities, apparently proving that his personal deformity existed but in the libels of an opposing faction, perpetuated in the pages of the poet and the novelist; while at the same time her researches seem to throw such light over the darker shades in his chequered career, as to induce the strongest presumption that he was not guilty of, or accessory to, those startling crimes which have been charged to his account. The limits, however, of the brief introduction allotted to this work, compel us to turn our attention from scenes of battle and of blood to other, and to us more interesting portions of his history.

When, on the partition † of Warwick's vast domains between the sister heiresses, the lordship and manor of Middleham, with its ancestral castle, became the fair heritage of Gloucester in

* Historie of the Arrival of Edward IV.; Warkworth's Chronicle; and Polydore Vergil; being Nos. I. X. and XXVIII. of the Camden Society's publications.

† A.D. 1473.

right of his wife,* the Lady Anne Neville, it assumed an extraordinary interest in his eyes. It may have been the beauty and fertility of the region in which it lay, still rendering Wensleydale an object of attraction to the lover of God's handiworks,—it may have been the reminiscences † of his earlier days, when within its feudal walls he first learnt the art of war from the princely Warwick, or whispered the soft breathings of affection into the ear of his gentle daughter: it may have been all or any of these; but certain it is, that, though the pomp and circumstance of state, or the high duties of his vice-regal station, may have compelled him the while to unfurl his banner, and reside within the time-worn walls of Pontefract, ‡ yet ever and anon did he escape from these to Middleham, "the centre and the home of his domestic affections."

Here then it was that the royal Gloucester resolved to establish a foundation, which might for ever attest his reverence for the honour and glory of God. To quote the language of that indefatigable historian § to whom we have already alluded, "It was not alone the restoration of castles and strongholds that occupied Gloucester's attention, and called forth his munificence; to his honour let it be recorded, that religion, ‖ and the worship of God

* Halsted's Richard III. vol. i. p. 298.

† Strickland's Queens of England, vol. iii. pp. 432, 433.

‡ Richard Duke of Gloucester, made high constable of England 29 Feb. 1472, resided at Pontefract as chief seneschal of the king's duchy of Lancaster in the north parts. —Plumpton Correspondence, p. 26, note.

§ Halsted's Richard III. vol. i. pp. 300, 301.

‖ The Harleian Collection contains a memorable instance of Richard's horror of sacrilege in a letter, "whereby the king (calling to remembraunce the dreadfulle sentence of the churche of God, yeven ayenst alle those personnes which wilfully attempt to usurp unto themselffes, ayenst good conscience, possessions or other things of right belonging to God and his said churche, and the gret perille of soule whiche may ensue by the same), commands that 20 acres and more of pasture within the parke of Pountfret, which was taken from the priour and convent of Pountfreit about the 10th yere of K. Edw. the IVth,

in temples consecrated to his service, was fully as much the object of his active zeal and attention as the repair of those defensive fabrics that suited his warlike temperament. Whitaker states, in his most interesting History of Richmondshire, 'that that county abounds with memorials of this prince's bounty to charities and religious-houses.' 'He seems,' adds this able writer, 'to have divided his residence for a considerable time between his castle here (Middleham), and that of Skipton. He bestoweth liberally on the monks of Coverham* and the parish of Skipton, for the repair of their respective churches:' but under the walls of his own castle, his favourite Middleham, he meditated greater things, and greater things he did indeed accomplish."

During Gloucester's sojourn in the metropolis, and even amid the splendour of that "festive scene, which had induced his visit to the court of Edward IV.," the solemnization of the marriage of his infant nephew the Duke of York with the heiress of the house of Norfolk, the Lady Anne Mowbray, he seems to have turned his attention to the project which had long occupied his mind, of amplifying the parish church of Middleham, by founding and incorporating there a college for a dean and six secular priests. The royal wedding occurred on the 15th of January, 1477, and on the 21st day of February, in the same year, Richard's exertions were crowned with success; and "a licence" was granted by King Edward, "for erecting the church of Middleham into a college."†

be restored unto them. Yoven the 2d day of Octobre, an. primo." MSS. Harl. 433, fol. 121.—See also Miss Halsted's admirable remarks on this document, Richard III. vol. ii. pp. 174, 175.

* Gloucester obtained, in 1475, the reversion of the manor of Coverdale (vide Rot. Par.), a district in close local connexion with the Middleham domain.

† Middleham Charters, Appendix A.

The advowson of the parish church and rectory of Middleham was already vested in the duke in right of his heiress wife; but, as the expense of maintaining the six chaplains, four clerks, clerk sacristane, and choristers, of whom the foundation was to consist, must necessarily have fallen heavily upon the rector, he endeavoured to provide a remedy by procuring the insertion of a clause in the royal licence, which empowered the new corporation to acquire lands of the value of two hundred marks yearly, the statute of mortmain, or any other statute, act, or ordinance to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

Armed with this important document, the princely founder proceeded to seek the sanction on his undertaking of one of the highest dignitaries within the realm of England.

Middleham was then not merely within the province, but actually in the archdiocese of York;* Chester and Ripon, within each of which it has since successively been *locally* situate, were neither of them in that day episcopal sees; and the archiepiscopal throne was filled by Laurence Booth.† To him therefore

* Chester was erected into a see on the dissolution of the monasteries temp. Henry VIII., and Ripon was restored in the reign of William IV., on the union of the bishoprics of Gloucester and Bristol, A.D. 1836.

† "He had risen by merit from obscurity. He studied at Cambridge, where he gained great distinction for his proficiency in literature, law, and divinity. While still a young man he was elected head of his house, and chancellor of that university. In 1457 he was made Bishop of Durham, while Henry VI. was nominally king, but under the influence of the Yorkists, to whom he continued steadily attached. In his old age he was selected to fill the office of Lord Chancellor. His appointment turned out a great failure—he was accordingly dismissed from the office of chancellor. To console him, he was soon after translated from Durham to York. He died, after having quietly presided over this province between three and four years; during which time, abandoning politics, he exclusively confined himself to his spiritual duties."—Campbell's Lives of the Lord Chancellors, vol. i. pp. 391 et seq.

"Laurence Booth, Archdeacon of Richmond, succeeded Robert Neville (as Bishop of Durham), and was consecrated the 15th September, 1457. He was master of Pembroke Hall, which he kept till he died; Chancellor of Cambridge, and Lord Chancellor of

Richard naturally addressed himself for the confirmation of what had been already done; aware that, without the approval of holy mother church, every arrangement which already had been or thereafter might be made must fall to the ground. From this illustrious prelate the pious designs of the royal founder experienced the same facilities which they had already met with in the quarter to which he had first applied. The archbishop, taking the matter into his grave consideration, proceeded, as a preliminary step, to issue his commission,* bearing date, from his manor of Southwell, the 6th day of August, 1478, and the second year of his translation, to Robert Bothe, Doctor of Laws, Dean of York, William Poteman, Archdeacon of Cleveland, Henry Gillowe, Sub-dean, and Thomas Barow, Canon of York, to convoke the Archdeacon of Richmond, or his procurator, especially, and all others generally, to the said church of Middleham or to some other fit and convenient place, on a certain day appointed; and the said parish church to erect into a college; to make due inquiry into the profits of the same; and to appoint a certain number of chaplains and other ministers, providing for the governance of the same and the cure of the parishioners.

At this period, the parish church of Middleham was a rectory with cure of souls, in the diocese of York, and archdeaconry of Richmond, of which the advowson (as we have already stated) was vested in the Duke of Gloucester, and the rector who then filled the benefice was William Beverley.

England in 1473. He built the college gates at Auckland, with some adjoining edifices, on both sides of the way, at his own expense. After he had been Bishop of Durham about twenty years, he was translated to York, and was buried in Cawood church near that city."—Sanderson's Description of the County of Durham, p. 78.

* Middleham Charters, Appendix B.

To him therefore (inasmuch as the consent of the incumbent was indispensably necessary to so great a change) Richard, on his return from the metropolis, immediately applied to sanction his projected college. This sanction was at once and in the most cordial manner granted by Beverley, who doubtless had already been in those habits of familiar intercourse with the royal duke to which his holy office would admit him. The consent of William Beverley was conveyed in a document * displaying evident marks of having been prepared with the greatest skill and caution, and bearing date the twentieth day of January, 1478, only four days subsequent to an application made by Gloucester to the Parliament † then assembled in the painted chamber, Westminster, for permission to alienate for the benefit of his college the advowson of certain churches, which was granted.

So far then his wishes were already carried out; but before the holy design could be completed there was another interest to be consulted, another assent to be gained, and that was the assent of the Archdeacon of Richmond,‡ a dignitary of very considerable power and influence within his archdeaconry, and whose jurisdiction, in consequence of his frequent residence at the Papal Court, was exercised by his commissary. Gloucester, whose munificence to the Church had been so well proved, would naturally experience but little difficulty in obtaining the ready consent of both these parties, and accordingly we find, on the same day on which William Beverley had resigned his rights as rector, an instrument was executed, conveying the consent of Doctor Thomas Pearson, Vicar General of the Archdeacon of Richmond, to the erecting of the church of Middleham into a college, until the sanction of the

* Middleham Charters, Appendix C.

† Rot. Parl. vol. vi. p. 172.

‡ See Gale's Honor of Richmond, Appendix, p. 65.

archdeacon * himself could be procured, which, as we shall hereafter see, was most elaborately conveyed by a future deed.

All these preliminary assents having been thus satisfactorily obtained, and the documents conveying them duly executed, and laid before the above named commissioners, they in compliance with the directions of Archbishop Booth, who was at once ordinary and metropolitan, proceeded with the matters which were entrusted to their care; and having cited and convoked the archdeacon of Richmond, or his procurator, and Master William Beverley, the rector, especially, and all others generally, on the 29th day of January, 1478,† they assembled in the parish church of Middleham, and, finding that all proceedings connected with the royal foundation had been rightly and canonically performed, did then and there, in full form of law, with the sanction of all parties interested therein, and before divers witnesses, erect the same into a collegiate church, and decree that it should be so held and esteemed for ever; and William Beverley became the first Dean.

The princely founder, having thus far seen his wishes advanced towards a successful completion, neglected not, amid the ever varying duties of his high and important station, the concerns of his new college; and accordingly we find that on the 4th day of July, in the 18th year of Edward IV. and within a brief period after the process of its erection had taken place, statutes were promulgated for the proper government of its various members and officers; statutes drawn up with the most consummate care and judgement, and bearing evident marks of the powerful mind which influenced the entire arrangements of the college.

* The archdeaconry of Richmond was at this time filled by that learned man, Doctor John Sherwood, who was subsequently appointed, in the year 1483, to the see of Durham on the decease of Bishop Dudley. The archdeacon had been sent embassador into Italy, where he collected many great Greek books. He held the see nine years, and died 1494. Sanderson's Description of Durham, p. 79. † Middleham MSS. Appendix D.

By these statutes* the principal place and stall on the *right* side of the choir, called "Our Lady's" stall, is assigned to the dean, Sir William Beverley.

The principal place and stall on the *left* side, called "Saint George's" stall, to the first priest, Sir Lawrence Eymer.

The next stall to the dean on the *right* side, called "Saint Catharine's" stall, to the second priest, Sir William Symson.

The second stall on the *left* side, called "Saint Ninian's" stall, to the third priest, Sir Richard Cutler.

The third stall on the *right* side, called "Saint Cuthbert's" stall, to the fourth priest, Sir William Burntyait.†

The third stall on the *left* side, called "Saint Anthony's" stall, to the fifth priest, Sir Henry Lonerhead.

The fourth stall on the *right* side, called "Saint Barbara's" stall, to the sixth priest, Sir John Bell.

To two of the clerks, stalls on the right side, and to the other two clerks, and to the clerk sacristan, called the minister for divine services and offices, stalls on the *left* side.

And to the six choristers pews or places at the assignation of the said dean.

These statutes, thus carefully drawn up, and still regulating the affairs of the college, were next submitted for approval and confirmation to the highest authorities in church and state; of this we have incontestible evidence in a most important document,‡ to which we shall have occasion again to refer, and which contains the following passage: "And also certain very laudable statutes for the prosperous state and the safe direction of the said colle-

* Middleham MSS. Whitaker's Richmondshire, vol. i. p. 339.

† Probably a native of the parish of Kirby-Malzeard, in which there is a township of the name.

‡ Archbishop Rotheram's Confirmation. Appendix E.

giate church, and the present and future ministers thereof, were laudably and honourably published by the mediation of the same duke, and *strengthened*, *corroborated*, and *established*, with the firmness of the apostolical see; we therefore," &c.

The Duke of Gloucester having thus far proceeded, not merely in the nominal foundation of his college, but having actually framed statutes for the government of the intended corporation, and by those statutes appointed the chaplains who were to fill the several stalls, we may naturally conclude that, in the prosecution of his design, he would at once endeavour to procure, what doubtless had been his original desire, the exemption of his college and the parish of Middleham from the jurisdiction of the Ordinary, so that the entire management might rest in the hands of the newly appointed Dean. But here an unforeseen event occurred to prevent the immediate completion of his wishes.

Archbishop Booth, who had so heartily concurred in aiding him to carry out his pious design, and under whose auspices the actual foundation had been accomplished, was in the year 1480 called to enter into his rest, leaving to his successor the completion of what he had already commenced. That successor was Dr. Thomas Rotheram,* who on the decease of Lawrence

* " He owed his elevation to his own merits. His family name was Scot, unillustrated in England at that time, and instead of it he assumed the name of the town in which he was born. He studied at King's College, Cambridge, and was one of the earliest fellows on this royal foundation, which has since produced so many distinguished men. He was afterwards master of Pembroke Hall, and chancellor of this university. For his learning and piety he was at an early age selected to be chaplain to Vere, 13th Earl of Oxford, and he was then taken into the service of Edward IV. Being a steady Yorkist, he was made Bishop of Rochester in 1467, and translated to Lincoln in 1471. To finish the notice of his ecclesiastical dignities, I may mention here that in 1480 he became Archbishop of York, and that he received a red hat from the pope, with the title of Cardinal S'tæ Ceciliæ." (Campbell's Lives of the Chancellors, vol. i. p. 393, ch. 23). The Arch-

Booth was translated from Lincoln to fill the archiepiscopal see of York. However anxious Gloucester might have been to expedite all the arrangements of his new foundation, so that they might receive their final confirmation from the sovereign pontiff, these events, as we have already observed, necessarily delayed their completion. For so many would be the official engagements of the new prelate, on coming into his diocese, that even supposing him, as the event proved, most favourably disposed towards Duke Richard and his college, some time must unavoidably elapse before he could examine into and satisfy himself as to the concessions he ought to make. The issue of the scrutiny, however, proved as favourable as the princely founder could desire, and on the 24th day of March, 1481, not many months after his translation, the archbishop, from his manor of Battersey, issued a document,* not merely confirming the acts of his predecessor, but totally and finally resigning his jurisdiction as ordinary and metropolitan.

These matters being thus far satisfactorily adjusted, Gloucester (while waiting for a more ample assent, and more decided and formal renunciation of his jurisdiction from the Archdeacon of Richmond, still absent at the papal court, as well as for a confirmation of the foundation of his college by the Dean and Chapter of York; which, in all probability, would require that body to be capitularly assembled, and may thus account for the apparent delay in

bishop died of the plague at Cawood, in the year 1500, and was buried in his own cathedral. He was the founder of Lincoln College, Oxford.—Ibid. p. 403.

Doctor Whitaker (Richmondshire, p. 337) states that this confirmation and resignation of his jurisdiction was granted by Archbishop Savage, Booth being now dead. The chronological data which we have already given shew the error into which Dr. Whitaker has fallen. Archbishop Rotheram *immediately* succeeded Booth, and held the see till 1500.

* Middleham Charters. Appendix E.

obtaining that instrument,) seems to have turned his attention towards the endowment of his new corporation. He had already, by a deed * bearing date December 20th, in the 19th Edw. IV. conveyed one acre of land and the advowson of the parish of Middleham to the dean and chaplains of Middleham.

But it is evident that his care for their well-being did not rest here, for during the summer of this year, 20 Edw. IV. on which we have now entered, we find a grant from Richard Duke of Gloucester and certain feoffees to William Beverley, dean of Middleham, and his successors, and the chaplains there, of ten acres of land; and on the 1st of October in the same year, an agreement † entered into between the said duke and the dean and chaplains about the tithe of hay and wood, "is," to use the words of Whitaker, "another relic of the transactions of Richard Duke of Gloucester with the dean and prebendaries at a very early period after the foundation."‡

But the winter passed away, and early in the ensuing spring all that was necessary for procuring the papal bull was complete. On the 10th of April 1482,§ John Sherwood, Archdeacon of Richmond, exempts the dean, the church, and the inhabitants of Middleham, from all archidiaconal, ordinary, and other ecclesias-

* Middleham MSS. Append. F. Strange to say, "that though the college were never dissolved, the advowson never passed according to the founder's grant, to the dean and chaplains." Such is Whitaker's statement, vol. i. p. 338. But the probability is, if the matter were more closely investigated, that the grant of the advowson did pass, and that, on the appointment of a dean by the crown, he at first presented the parish to *himself*, until in process of time, and during the stormy periods which ensued, the distinction between the dean of the collegiate church and the incumbent of the parish seems to have been forgotten, and the appointment to the one considered necessarily to imply the presentation to the other also.

† Middleham MSS. Append. G.

‡ Whitaker's Richmondshire, vol. i. p. 348.

§ Middleham Charters, Append. H.

tical jurisdiction whatsoever; and on the 12th of April in the same year, Robert Bothe the dean,* and the chapter, of York confirm the exemption made by the archbishop, although it was not until April 1483† that they were enabled to confirm the exemption granted by their archdeacon. And now there was wanted but the one crowning act to confirm and establish the entire proceedings; and in those days, when the church's weal was not a secondary consideration with her spiritual rulers, no unnecessary delays were likely to occur; consequently the fiat of the sovereign pontiff was, within a very brief period, accorded to the work. On the 24th day of July, in the year of the Incarnation of our Lord 1482, the fifteenth indiction, and the eleventh year of the Pontificate of the most holy Father in Christ the Lord Sixtus the Fourth, by divine providence Pope, in the collegiate church of Middleham,‡ William, by divine permission Abbot of the Monastery of the Blessed Mary of Jourvale,§ in the diocese of York, Executor Judge and Commissary of the Apostolical See, together with the venerable fathers in Christ the abbots of the monasteries of the Blessed Mary near the walls of York and of Fountains, in the said diocese of York, being nominated by certain letters of commission or delegation, under hempen thread, publicly sitting in tribunal, and lawfully proceeding upon the business in the same letter contained: having called, cited, and lawfully admonished the Lord Thomas, by divine permission Archbishop of York, and all other persons therein concerned, did solemnly publish, statute, and proclaim the bull of the most

* Middleham MSS. † Middleham MSS.

‡ Middleham Charters, Append. I.

§ Now called Jervaux, the magnificent ruins of which continue in careful preservation in the parish of East Witton, which adjoins to the deanery of Middleham.

holy father, together with their statute, decree, and ordination, in the presence of the venerable and discreet men, John Gryndon, chaplain, and Ralph Wintringham, gentleman, of the diocese of York, and many others, especially called to be witnesses to the premises. And now all was complete.

Having thus far recited the gradual progress of Richard's pious designs, from his first proposal to amplify and erect the parish church of Middleham into a collegiate church, until, with the fullest consents of *all* the parties interested therein, and the highest sanction of the authorities, civil and ecclesiastical, he had carried out and completed the same, we shall now proceed, as far as the imperfect records handed down will permit us, to trace the history and succession of its deans, and at the same time incidentally to touch upon any other facts connected with its history; and, where we may be enabled to do so, to record the names of the other individuals, lay or clerical, in any way connected with the royal Gloucester's foundation.

We have already stated that by the statutes, bearing date July 4th A.D. 1479, the principal place and stall in the choir was assigned to the dean Sir William Beverley. But that his appointment as dean had taken place prior to that period (*most probably* it immediately succeeded his resignation as rector) is evident from a document* dated January 29th, 1478, being the receiver-general's receipt for 4*s*. from William Beverley, *dean* of Middleham, due to the Archbishop of York, in recompense of his resignation of ecclesiastical jurisdiction, while in that last important instrument the papal bull,† which crowned and confirmed all their privileges, he is styled "that provident man William Beverley, the now dean."

* Middleham MSS.

† See Appendix E.

But Gloucester's kindness to Beverley, who had so cordially aided his designs, ceased not here, for we find that on his accession to the throne renewed marks of the royal favour were conferred, not on the dean alone, but also on other members of the chapter of Middleham. Amongst the earliest grants in Richard's reign bearing on the present subject, we find the following:

"Maister William Beverley, the deanry of Wymbourne, in the countie of Dorset, for term of his life,"* which is repeated almost immediately after in these words: "Maister William Beverley, dean of the king's chapell, the deanery of Wymborne Mynster, in the countie of Dorset;"† and this was followed, at no distant period, by a grant to "Maist' William Beverley,‡ of the pension of the Abbey of Yorke." While in a warrant § "yeven at the palais of Westm. 7th Febr. anno primo, he is styled the king's "fulle trusty clerc and counsellour, Mr. William Beverley, deane of the chapelle." Simultaneously with these proofs of King Richard's favour to the first dean, we find also two of the primary chaplains employed in places of profit or of confidence; these were, John Bell and William Symson, whose names are recorded in the following royal warrants.

"A warrant‖ to Mr. William Wagot, clerke, and Sir John Bell, parson of Parkham, out of such money as resteth in their hands, that hath belonged to Sir Thomas Saint Legere, to pay and deliver to Mastre John Whytfielde, his confessour, the sum of 36 pounds sterling, to be employed by him like as it is appointed. Yoven the xii. day of November, a°. primo." And again, "A warrant ¶ to

* Harleian MSS. 433, fol. 67, b.
† Harl. MSS. 433, fol. 68.
‡ Harl. MSS. 433, fol. 101.
§ Harl. MSS. 433, fol. 152 b.
‖ Harl. MSS. 433, fol. 123.
¶ Harl. MSS. 433, fol. 201 b.

Geoffrey Frank,* receiver of the lordship of Sheriff Hooton,† to content Sir William Symson, chauntrey priest of our Lady Chapell beside the church of Sheriff Hooton, the sum of 100*s*. due unto him for his salary at Martinmass last past, for half yeare, and so yearly from Geoffrey, his salary of 200*s*. yeven at Windesore, 15 Jan. a°. 2^do.^" And in the same year occurs the last record which we have been able to discover of this prince's munificence to his college. In a list of royal grants, entitled, "Maneria, dominia, terræ, tenementa concessa per D'num Regem R. tercium diversis personis, hæredibus suis masculis, quos inter fuerunt," occurs the following: "The Kinges Colleige of Middleham.‡ Com. Norff. manerium de Wygenhalle et de Fersfeld in valorem per annum, lxxiij^li.^" These words are remarkable, shewing even in the midst of the overwhelming public business, domestic sorrows, and unceasing anxieties, which must have surrounded him, Richard's continued interest in his foundation; and, further, that since his accession to the throne, it was designed to change the name from "the College of Richard Duke of Gloucester," to "the King's College, Middleham." But these manors, which were intended for the service of God, and the benefit of the church, passed not, we must presume, into the possession of the corporation for which they were intended. Ere many months elapsed, the sun of Richard's glory set on Bosworth's fatal field, and the probability is, either that the grant had never been legally completed, or that his more fortunate, though less talented and gener-

* Geoffrey Franke here mentioned was also receiver of the lordship of Middleham, and appears to have been much in Richard's confidence. Harl. MSS. 433, passim.

† Of Sheriff Hutton it is only necessary to remark that it formed a portion of the Neville property until seized by Edward IV. and given by him to his brother, the founder of the collegiate church at Middleham.

‡ Harl. MSS. 433, fol. 283.

ous rival and successor, cancelled the grant to bestow it upon some of those adventurers who had helped him to mount the throne.

It seems not improbable that the grant of those manors in the county of Norfolk, which we have just recorded, might have been made on the King's last visit to Middleham. "From York," which he entered May 1st, 1484, "Richard (to quote the beautiful language of his biographer)* proceeded to his favourite Middleham, so long his dwelling-place as Duke of Gloucester, and the scene of his child's last earthly sufferings,—a spot once endeared to him as the birthplace of his heir, now doubly fraught with desolation from his decease having happened within its walls." And as several warrants and grants connected with the deceased prince were issued then or just subsequently, it is not unreasonable to suppose that one so intimately connected with the ecclesiastical foundation there was made at the same period.

On Richard's death,† says Whitaker, "the sun of Middleham set; though transferred to the crown, it was neglected, for an obvious reason, by the house of Lancaster," and this assertion, which, no doubt, is correct, may also readily account for Henry's neglect of the college, which bore the name of him from whose hand he had wrested the sceptre, as well as for the very imperfect records which are left of many matters connected with its subsequent history. How long William Beverley held the deanery of Middleham does not appear, as there is no document in existence, at least, none which has been brought to light, recording his decease, or the appointment of his successor; but that Mr. John Halle was dean, previous to the entrance of Simon Welden, whom Dr. Whitaker mentions as Beverley's successor, is evident from the royal

* Halsted's Richard III. vol. ii. p. 324.

† Richmondshire, vol. i. p. 348.

mandate * issued to install the said Simon Welden into the deanery of Middleham, which is there declared to be vacant by the resignation of John Halle, on account of his removal to the rectory of Elsdon, in the diocese of Durham: During his incumbency some disputes seem to have arisen with regard to part of the composition, before alluded to, between Duke Richard and the dean and chaplains of his college. For we find that a bill was exhibited by Simon Welden, dean of Middleham, to King Henry VIII. praying a commission with respect to right of pasture for eight oxen and two horses in the West Park of Middleham, with the commission annexed; and on the 26th of June, 16° Henry VIII. (1525,) a lease was granted from Simon Welden, dean of Middleham, to Edward Forest, of the going or pasturage of eight oxen and two horses; rent £1 6*s.* 8*d.* yearly; term, for the life of the said Simon."

This is the last recorded act of Dean Welden; we find him, however, still in possession in the 26th Hen. VIII. (1535,) at which time the ecclesiastical survey † was taken, in pursuance of an act of parliament. This was at the close of his incumbency:‡ for in

* Middleham MSS. Appendix K. Whitaker's words are:—
"William Beverley, last rector and first dean. He seems to have lived to the year 1515.
"Simon Walden, installed by royal mandate, 1515." Richmondshire, p. 340.
But this statement, as we have shewn, is evidently incorrect.

† Valor Ecclesiasticus, printed by the order of the House of Commons 1825, vol. V. See Append. L. See also Appendix, Gale's Honor of Richmond, p. 96.

‡ Whitaker, in his catalogue of Deans, i. 340, says "John Smyth occurs 1535." No mention of a Dean of this name can be discovered in any public document, or among the Middleham MSS. with the exception of an erroneous transcript of the Valor Ecclesiasticus, made many years since, to which is subscribed "Johēs Smyth, Incumbens." It is difficult to conceive how this should have happened, except from the circumstance of "Johēs Smyth, Incumbens" standing at the head of the valuation of Well Hospital,

the very next year, on the 11th of April, 27th Hen. VIII. (1536,) a similar lease to that made by Dean Welden,* and at the same rental, was granted by William Willes, dean of Middleham, to the above-mentioned Edward Forest.

It was during the period in which the preceding individuals held the deanery of Middleham, that all those momentous changes occurred in the ecclesiastical polity of the country, which eventually led to the position now occupied by the English church; and while we cannot but deplore the ruthless destruction of religious-houses (which it is owned on all hands needed not a sweeping and sacrilegious spoliation, but only a thorough and judicious reform of those abuses which, by the lapse of ages, had crept into them), foundations which might have been rendered such a blessing to the country at large, in providing extended opportunities for liberal and useful education, and to the poor in particular, who felt that they were the church's peculiar care; instead of bringing a blight† on many a family, who became partakers of the unhallowed spoil: there is abundant cause of gratitude to God, who has still mercifully continued us a living branch of the holy Catholic Church, and permitted us to see its gradual spread in every quarter of the globe. Consequent on those changes to which we have alluded, was the issue of a very important charter by Thomas, Lord Cromwell, the King's vicar general and official

which immediately succeeds that of Middleham, and which may possibly have led the copyist into the mistake which has been committed. In that public record Simon Welden is described as Incumbens Mense Maii, A° 1535, and William Willes was Dean in April 1536. It seems therefore highly improbable that John Smyth could be Dean, as stated by Dr. Whitaker, in 1535.

* Middleham MSS.

† See Spelman's History and Fate of Sacrilege, passim.

principal, under the sanction of Henry himself, as supreme in all causes, civil as well as ecclesiastical, bearing date 15th July, 30th Henry VIII. (1539.) This document* is a licence to the dean and ministers of Middleham to grant probates of wills, to decide all ecclesiastical suits, and exercise all other privileges within their jurisdiction: thus perpetuating and confirming the exemptions and powers which had previously appertained to them.

But, in a place so remote, and, after the accession of the Lancastrian dynasty, so neglected as Middleham became, it would seem that Dean Welden, having no inducement to take any active part in the great religious changes, which were then in progress, quietly yielded to the current of events, and smoothly floated down the stream: Such, however, does not appear to have been the case with Dean Willes: for the next document which brings him under our notice is of a very singular character. Admitted dean during the reign of the last Henry, and surviving him, he was dean on the accession of the sixth Edward to the throne. Immediately after that event the instrument† to which we have alluded was issued, dated 5th July, 1 Edward VI. and is "Pardon granted to William Willes, dean of Middleham, for all heresies, &c. committed by him." What the peculiar nature of these crimes was, it is impossible now to investigate. Suffice it to say that the document still remains, bearing evidence as to the fact we have recorded, and Willes still continued dean of Middleham; for there is yet in existence a lease‡ dated 18th January, A°

* Middleham Charters. Append. M. The words in the original are important, "Decano ac Ministris;" thereby evidently shewing that there were other spiritual persons associated with the Dean at this period in the College of Middleham.

† Middleham MSS.

‡ Middleham MSS. Append. N.

sexto Edw. VI. (1552,) from William Willes, parson of Middleham, to Thomas Clapham, of the rectory of Middleham, rent £35, term six years. Whitaker,* in his History of Richmondshire, alluding to this transaction, remarks, "in an old lease of the rectory, bearing date 6th Edw. VI., I find a reservation by the lessor of the whole jurisdiction of the church, "churchyarde mortuaries, probate of testaments, weddyng money, churchyngs, and headmas pence." The rent was £35, with these reservations, within 18 years of the royal valuation, which was £15 19*s.* 4*d.*

This is the last act of Dean Willes, of which there is any record hitherto discovered.

Whitaker, in his Catalogue of the Deans of Middleham, on the death of Willes, adds, "after which is a very long chasm to —— D. D. or LL.D. admitted 1661.†

"Thomas Holdsworth occurs A.D. 1679."

It must ever be a matter of regret that such an interesting writer as Dr. Whitaker, and one whose works are so frequently referred to, should, at least in his account of Middleham, have been guilty of so many inaccuracies. Some have already been mentioned in the course of this narrative. But the point at which it has now arrived, evidences how little research or attention he has bestowed on those minute particulars, which, after all, are important links in the great chain of historical truth.

Whitaker names Thomas Holdsworth as dean in 1679, thus leaving an unfilled chasm of no less than 127 years from the last mention of Dean Willes. It is to be lamented that, notwithstand-

* Page 340, note.

† P. 340. Whitaker here falls into another error, there was no —— D.D. or LL.D admitted 1661 ; but, as will hereafter be shewn, Thomas Holdsworth, M.A. was installed in 1660, and held the deanery till his death in 1681.

ing every exertion to make the catalogue of deans complete, an hiatus still exists, but it is reduced from 127 to 57 years.

In the first existing parish register of Middleham, commencing A.D. 1604, mention is made of three deans, who have been passed over without any notice by Dr. Whitaker.

Of these three, the first in point of time was Mr. Henrie Pagett. Several entries connected with the family of Dean Pagett occur in the ancient register.

"1609, November. Linley, the son of Henrie Pagett, was baptized 23d day."

"1612, Julie. Richard, the sonne of Henrie Pagett, was baptized the 10th day."

"1614, Aprill. Daniel, the sonne of Henrie Pagett, was baptized the 29th day."

The year 1618 seems to have been fatal to the Pagett family, for in the month of March of that year we find recorded,—

"Tymothy Pagett was buried the 25th day."

And in little more than a month after the dean himself expired, as appears by the following entry:—

"Aprill. Mr. Henrie Pagett, deane, was buried the 28th day."

While in the short space of ten days the father was followed by his daughter to the grave:—"Maie. An, the daughter of Henrie Pagett, was buried the 8th day."

Among the very few memorials which we possess relative to the once regal castle of Middleham, after the death of Richard III. one or two occur during the incumbency of Dean Henrie Pagett. It will be remembered that the first son whose baptism is extracted bore the name of Linley; thus again, as in Gloucester's days, exhibiting the friendly feeling existing between the lord of the castle

and the dean of the collegiate church, for the name was evidently bestowed upon him in remembrance of its recently deceased occupant, whose interment is recorded in the following words :—

"1609, November. Sir Henrie Linley, that worthie knight of Middleham castle, was buried the 8th day." (A very brief period before the baptism of the dean's child, which took place on the 23d of the same month). And in the following year these two entries occur :—

"1610, August. Ladie Feronoma Linley was buried the first day."

"William George, servant to the Ladie Linley, was buried the 27th day."

"All that can be further said on this place (Middleham Castle) with any degree of certainty,"* writes Mr. Maude, "is, that it was inhabited, so late as the year 1609, by Sir Henry Linley, knight. After his decease an appraisement of goods was taken on the 3rd of January, 1610; the inventory was, in 1781, in the hands of the then dean of Middleham; and that in the 22nd of Charles I. it was ordered by the committee at York to be made untenantable, as being of no further use as a garrison."

But we must return to our narrative. Dean Henrie Pagett was succeeded by his namesake, and most probably his relative, Nathaniel Pagett. As we have no account of his appointment to the deanery, it becomes necessary to trace him, as best we may, by aid of the ancient register. The entries after his installation which we meet with are the following:—

"1620, November. John Pagett, ye sonne of Mr. Deane, was baptized ye vii daie."

* Maude's Wensleydale, p. 76, notes.

"1622, October. Anna, the daughter of Mr. Deane, was baptized the 30th day."

"Anna Padget, ye daughter of Mr. Nathaniel Padget, was buried the xxviith day of May 1625."

"October. Nathaniell Pagget . . . . . ., was baptized the second day, 1625."

The next extract, which is evidently in the dean's own handwriting, is of considerable importance, as establishing his connection with the preceding entries; it is as follows:—

"Christopher Dodsworth and Jane Cordwell, servantes unto Mr. Arthur Linley, were married by me, Nathaniel Pagett, Deane of Midleham, upon the 15 of July, anno Domini 1626. Nathaniel Pagett, Deane."

After a long interval, we find,

"Ffabruary. Jane, the daughter of Mr. Nathaniel Padget, was baptized the twenty-fift day, 1629."

"Januarie, 1632. Anna, the daughter of Mr. Nathaniell Padget, was baptized the eight day, whose sureties were Mr. Matthew Gale, Mrs. Marie Bulmar, Mrs. Lembert, 1632."

"November. Samuel, the son of Nathaniell Padget, was baptized the first day, 1636."

The birth of this child was immediately followed by the death of the mother; and the infant survived her but a week, as we ascertain from the same authority.

"November. Mrs. Jane Padget was buried the second day, 1636."

"Samuel Padget was buried the 9°, 1636."

After this we have no further mention of Dean Nathaniel Pagett; but that at no distant period the loss of his wife was succeeded by his own death, or, as there occurs no mention of his interment at Middleham, probably by his resignation and removal,

is evident from the appointment of a new dean. This was Joshua Pullein*, the first record of whose name, as connected with Middleham, occurs in the following copious entry:—

"May, 1638. Jane, the daughter of Joshuah Pullein, Deane of this Collegiate Church of Midleham, was borne the 4th day of May, aboute 7 o'clocke in the morninge, and baptized the 10th day."

There is every reason to judge, from the appearance of this entry, that it was made by the new dean himself, as also the following, which is in the same handwriting:—

"1640. Henry, the son of Joshuah Pullein, Deane of this Collegiate Church of Midleham, was borne the 16th of June, about 3 o'clock in the morning, and baptizde 23 of June."

This child appears to have died in infancy.

"Henry, the son of Mr. Deane, was buried the twentie 1 day of September, 1641."

But the name was again bestowed on another son born in the succeeding year:—

"Henry, the son of Mr. Deane, was baptised the one and twentieth day of August, 1642."

No other entry connected with Dean Pulleine occurs till,

"Januarie, 1648. Robert, the sonne of Mr. Joshuah Pullein, Dean of the Collegiate Church of Midleham, was born the 21st day of Januarie, and baptised the 30th day, 1648."

And again, "Paule, the son of Mr. Joshua Pulleyne, was born and baptized the 7th day of March, 1650."

This is the latest entry connected with the family of Dean Pul-

* The family of Pulleine is said to be descended from Burdet. It was a family of note, seated for some centuries at Killinghall, near Harrogate. Heaps of ruins covered with grass mark the spot where their residence stood. See Harl. MSS. 1074, fol, 70. Also Burke's Commoners, art. Pulleine.

leine, unless the following be the register of his daughter's marriage at the early age of sixteen:—

"1654. Timothy Pressfield, of Yorke, and Jane Pullein, of Middleham, were married the eight day of May."

And in the following year is recorded the birth of a daughter, the issue of this union.

Deane Pulleine's death, in possession of the deanery, is recorded as follows:—

"December, 1657.

"Mr. Joshua Pullin, Dean, was buried the first day."

This decisive entry negatives a statement made by Dean Cotes,* in his Notes, written for the benefit of his successors, bearing date 26th July, 1739, in which he says, "that in the time of the civil wars the legal dean was thrust out of possession, and an intruder placed in his room."

In fact, during the whole preceding period, from the first extract which has been given, recording the birth of his daughter, anno 1638, down to the memorial of his burial in 1657, a space of nineteen years, he is almost invariably spoken of as "dean of this collegiate church;" and the most careful examination of the registers and other muniments of the deanery, gives not the slightest support to such an opinion as that expressed by Dean Cotes. And the probability is great, that, in a place so remote, and irresponsible either to ordinary or metropolitan, Dean Pulleine quietly yielded to the pressure of the times, and was permitted to remain in peaceable possession of his deanery.

We shall now revert to the contemporaneous history of the castle, and endeavour to throw together the very few records we can find of its inhabitants.

* Middleham MSS.

It has already been stated, on the authority of Mr. Maude,* no contemptible antiquary, that "in the 22nd Car. I. it was ordered by the committee at York to be made untenantable, as being of no further use as a garrison." Whitaker, on the other hand, informs us,† "I learn from some papers in the dean's possession, that the castle was, from the year 1609 to the reign of Charles II. in the possession of Sir Henry Linley and his representatives, and that, one of his daughters having married a Lord Loftus,‡ he succeeded to the estate. Charles I. having (long before the decease at least of this nobleman) sold the manor of Middleham to the citizens of London, who in 1661 conveyed it to ——— Wood, esquire, of Littleton, in Middlesex, ancestor of the present lord."

Now this statement of Whitaker carries with it a very high degree of probability, and the circumstance of Sir Edward Loftus's marriage, and the baptism of three children having taken place at Middleham, indicate the residence of this illustrious family there during a considerable portion, at least, of the above period. Towards the close of the incumbency of Dean Nathaniell Pagett, the union alluded to by Whitaker took place.

"Feb. 28th 1635. Sir Edward Loftus and Mrs. Jane Lindley were married the day and year above written."

And subsequently the following baptisms were recorded:

"Sarah, the daughter of the right worshipful Sir Edward Loftus, was baptised the twentie eight of May 1636."

"Arthur, the son of the right honarabel Lord Loftus was baptised the 18th day of June 1644."

* Maude's Wensleydale, p. 76, notes. † Richmondshire, vol. i. pp. 348, 9.

‡ It may not be unworthy of remark that the family of Lofthouse was seated at Swineside, a hamlet in the parish of Coverham, and not far distant from Middleham, for many centuries.—Vide Peerage, art. Marq. Ely.

"Aprill. Edward, the son of the right honarable Lord Loftus, was baptised the 14th day, 1648."

After this the name of Loftus does not again occur in the archives of Middleham.

It has been already mentioned that Dean Pulleine died in December 1657. This was within nine months of the termination of Cromwell's eventful career, and there is no record of any appointment to the deanery of Middleham during the brief remainder of his protectorate, or the short and troubled reign of his son and successor Richard. But no sooner had the Restoration been effected, and Charles II. securely seated on the throne of his ancestors, than we find the vacancy immediately filled up. The exiled monarch entered his metropolis on the 29th of June 1660, and on the 23rd day of September, in the same year, the following entry was made in the parish register, which is the first direct notification therein of the installation of a dean:

"Anno Domini 1660.

"Memorandum: that I, Thomas Holdsworth, clerk, read the Articles of the Church of England publiquely in the church of Middleham, the 23rd day of September, which was the first Sunday after my induction and installment there, declaring that I willingly and *ex animo* subscribed to the said Articles, and withal reading the letters testimoniall of the Vicar Generall in the then vacancyes of the sees of Yorke and Chester.

Thomas Holdsworth, Dec. Midl.

Witnesses.

Alex. Wright. Symon Geldart. Robert Batte.
Th. Baitman. Richard Sweeting. Anthony Tyidman.
Christopher Ward, his mark +. George Baitman."

There are strong reasons for suspecting from the above docu-

ment, that Dean Holdsworth, on his first entry, was not aware of the many privileges and exemptions which belonged to the college of which he thus became the head. And this may partly be accounted for from the great confusion which had crept into all, and especially ecclesiastical matters, during the preceding years of anarchy and usurpation.

From these causes then most probably will have arisen his "withall reading the Letters testimoniall of the vicar-generall in the then vacancyes of the sees of York and Chester," thereby in some sort acknowledging the jurisdiction of those sees, and leading at no distant period to its assumption by the archbishop, and to that memorable appeal to the king as visitor,* which terminated in the signal defeat of the archbishop's claims, in the person of his vicar-general; and on the 14th August, 18th Car. II. in the "exemplification of a decree that the Dean of Middleham shall be exempt from archiepiscopal visitation, &c.:"† imposing at the same time the entire cost of the proceedings on that functionary of the archbishop.

It is highly probable that Mr. Holdsworth was one of those individuals who, during the troublous times which preceded his elevation, had proved himself a staunch and zealous royalist: for not merely was he preferred on the Restoration to the deanery of Middleham, but, within a few years afterwards, still further rewarded by his appointment to one of the "Golden Stalls of Durham." This appears from the following statement:‡—

* "Middleham—a royal peculiar, having *all* ecclesiastical jurisdiction within the parish, and exempt from all visitation, but that of the Crown. C. J. CHESTER, July 4th, 1845." Valor Ecclesiasticus, Vol. V. p. 334.

† Middleham Charters. Append. O.

‡ "Antiquities of the Abbey or Cathedral Church of Durham, &c., by P. Sanderson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1767," p. 107.

"Prebendaries in the Ninth Stall.

"1675. Thomas Holdsworth, M.A. (after the resignation of Dr. Sancroft) installed January 1. He was Dean of Midlam or Middleham."

It will be remembered that Mr. Holdsworth was installed as Dean of Middleham in the autumn of 1660; and just a year afterwards the following important entry was made in the ancient register:—

"Michaell Watherwicke, Minister of Middleham, was buryed the 4th day of September, 1661," being the first *direct* evidence which we have found in it of a second clergyman, "the clerk sacristane, or minister for divine services and offices," of the Charters, being associated with the dean for the performance of the spiritual duties of the collegiate church and parish of Middleham; a member of the corporation, of whose existence under different appellations, from the foundation of the college, down to the present day, we have little reason to doubt.

The deficiency which occurs in the parochial register of Middleham, extending from October 1673, till November 1681, a period of eight years, renders it uncertain whether or not Dean Holdsworth was buried there. But that his death did not occur till the last-mentioned year, may be inferred from this memorandum in the above cited history of Durham.

"1681.* Henry Bagshaw, D.D. (after the death of Mr. Holdsworth) collated July 18th, installed the 20th." And in the month of November succeeding, we find, from the following entry in the parish register, that the deanery was again filled up, being the second appointment to that dignity made by Charles II. "Mr.

* Sanderson's Description of Durham, p. 107.

Christopher Coleby, dean of the collegiate church of Middleham, entered the fift day of November, 1681." While in the very next line is recorded, in the same handwriting, the appointment of another clark sacristane, " Robert Turner entered claricus the 15th of November, 1681."

Of Dean Coleby, whom we know to have been a native of Wensleydale,* little remains on record, and his incumbency seems marked by no particular occurrence; in fact the only memoranda made during the long period that he enjoyed the deanery, in addition to the usual record of births, deaths, and marriages, are the following:

" The great bell was cast the 28th day of August 1684, and was hung the 11th of September 1684."

" August 1st, 1715.

" Memorand: that then it was agreed, by and between Christopher Coleby, Dean of Midleham, and the then present churchwardens, viz. Thomas Wreather, Christopher Dixon, and Robert Morfitt, of the one p^{te}, to and with Marke Lambe, of Richmond, plumber, in manner and forme following; that is to say, that he the said Marke Lambe is to uphold and keep the collegiate church of Midleham aforesaid in good and sufficient repaire, in the lead workes over the church of Midleham aforesaid, for and during the terme of the naturall life of the said Marke Lambe; in consideration whereof the s^{d} now present church wardens, and others the chiefe ffreeholders belonging y^{e} s^{d} collegiate church & towne of Midleham afores^{d}, doe mutually agree to give & allow to the s^{d}

* Bowbridge Hall, the ancient residence of this family, is situate near the road from Askrigg to Bainbridge, and, though now reduced to the condition of a farmhouse, bears indubitable marks of former importance.

Marke Lambe the sume of twenty shillings p ann. In witness whereof the s[d] dean and the then present church wardens have hereunto sett their hands, the day and yeare above written.

Witness hereof, Chr. Coleby, dean
John Craggs. of Midleham.
Edw[d] Smithson. his marke
Jno. Pepper Thomas T. W. + Wreather.
of Edgley. Chs. Dixon.
Robt. Morfitt.
Marke Lambe."

He was buried in the choir. The precise spot has not been marked, but on the right hand side a brass plate is affixed to the wall, above the steps leading to the altar, with this inscription:

NEAR
THIS PLACE LIES
CHRISTOPHER COLBY, A.M.
LATE DEAN OF MIDDLEHAM,
SECOND SON OF JOHN COLBY, ESQ[R].
OF BOWBRIDGE HALL, WHO DIED
JULY 9th, 1727, AGED 83 YEARS.
HE WAS A KIND HUSBAND,
TENDER FATHER, AND A LEARNED
AND PIOUS DIVINE. NEAR HIM
LIETH MARGARET HIS WIDOW;
JOHN, GABRIEL, MOORE, ANNE,
AND FRANCES, THEIR CHILDREN.

The general impression has hitherto been that Dean Colby was succeeded on his decease by Luke Cotes; but this is an error, for it is evident from the following entry in the parish register, that

Dean Cotes must have entered on the resignation of his predecessor.

"Luke Cotes, Master of Arts, Dean of Middleham, February y^e^ . . . . 1719."

And this is confirmed* by the manner in which the burial of Dean Coleby is recorded.

"Mr. Christoph^r^ Coleby, *late* Dean of Middleham, July the 11th, 1727."

Whereas in similar entries connected with Deans Pagett, Pulleine, and Place, they are styled Dean, not LATE Dean.

Mr. Cotes, who thus became Dean of Middleham, was destined, in many respects, to act a more conspicuous part in the drama of life than had most of his predecessors. Up to this period, the Deans of Middleham, being exempt from the jurisdiction of ordinary and metropolitan, had, without question, exercised divers privileges and ecclesiastical jurisdiction within the bounds of their royal peculiar, as, marrying people living in it, or any other parish, without a licence or publication of banns. Of this, the parochial registers afford abundant proof; for the marriages of parties from various places in the north of England, and many of them remote from Middleham, recorded there, might almost compete with the more recent exploits of the high priest of Gretna Green. "But in the years† 1736 and 1739 a warm persecution was carried on against Luke Cotes, then Dean of Middleham, for marrying a couple without publication of banns, or a licence first had, grounded

* This is established beyond contradiction by the licence granted by Luke Cotes (Vide Appendix P.), bearing date 1720, in which he is expressly styled Dean of Middleham. This was several years prior to the decease of Mr. Coleby, who seems after his *resignation* of the deanery to have resided at Middleham, where he lies interred.

† Maude's Wensleydale, p. 75, notes.

on the statute of the 10th Anne, ch. 19, sec. 176, for the penalty of £100 given by that statute. But upon producing the charters and other proofs, the defendant Cotes in both actions had a verdict, and the dean of Middleham for the time being afterwards enjoyed the same privilege, till finally abrogated by the marriage act, 26 Geo. II." It is evident also from a manuscript left among the deanery papers for the use of his successors, dated the 26th day of July, 1739, and bearing the signature "Lu. Cotes, dean of Middleham," that he was engaged in much litigation with the then inhabitants, arising out of various frauds, which, commencing during the anarchy of the civil wars, had been practised on his immediate predecessors, as regarded the different revenues of the deanery, and which he was happily enabled in some measure to restore.

Prior to the incumbency of Dean Cotes, the collegiate church of Middleham, according to the accounts which we have collected from the oldest inhabitants, one of whom died a few years since at the advanced age of 97, was fitted up in the manner of a cathedral church or college chapel, with open seats running east and west, while the choir contained the ancient stalls of the dean and chaplains. The Dean, fancying doubtless that it would improve the church, pulled down all the open sittings from the nave, demolished the antique stalls, portions of the carved work belonging to which may still be traced throughout the sacred edifice, pulled down the rood-screen, and completed his innovations by filling nave, choir, and chantry,* with large square pews of oak; and then he was left to bear alone the expenses of the costly work.

This, perhaps, may have caused him some temporary incon-

* See Addenda.

venience, and thus given rise to the statement made by Dr. Whitaker, who, in speaking of this Dean, says that he "did not die at Middleham, nor is it known what became of him; tradition says that he was long a prisoner for debt;"* a report, which, though prevalent in Middleham even to the present day, seems to have been, like many others of a similar nature, entirely false.

This it appears, the historian of Richmondshire ascertained before the final conclusion of his laborious work, for in the Addenda he tells us† that "the following account of Dean Cotes, communicated by a relative, and authenticated by family papers, proves that the tradition respecting him, mentioned p. 340, is totally void of foundation. Luke Cotes was a descendant of George Cotes, master of Baliol college, Oxford, and Bishop of Chester, in 1554. He was educated at Peter House, Cambridge, and, having taken his first degree, received deacon's orders from Dr. Barlow, Bishop of Lincoln, in September, 1688, and priest's orders in the following year from the same prelate, being at that time M.A. In July, 1701, he was presented by Archbishop Sharpe to the vicarage of Birstall; in 1717 became domestic chaplain to Richard Lord Cobham, and was installed Dean of Middleham on the 2nd of June, 1719. The king's grant of mandamus, bearing date the 11th of February preceding, states the avoidance in this dignity to have been occasioned, not by the death, but by the resignation, of Christopher Coleby. It was held by Dean Cotes till his decease, in 1741, and till within a short period of that event he resided chiefly at Middleham. His removal was occasioned by the infirmities of age, for he was then

* Whitaker's Richmondshire, vol. i. p. 340.

† Ibid, vol. ii. p. 472.

nearly eighty, and the loss of his wife,* Mary, daughter of Thomas Smithson, to whom a monument was erected by her sons, Deodatus and Theophilus, in the vestry of Middleham church,† where she was interred. The Dean died at the house of the former, in Manchester, and was buried in the chancel of the collegiate church there, the following inscription being placed over his grave:—

HIC JACET LUCAS COTES, A.M.
DECANUS DE MIDDLEHAM, COM. EBOR.
VITA FUNCTUS DIE DECEMB. XXII., ÆTATIS
SUÆ LXXX., A.D. MDCCXLI.

"Far from being of obscure origin, or in embarrassed circumstances, his family was of considerable antiquity, and has still a branch seated at Woodcote, in the county of Salop. He educated eight children in a manner that enabled them to maintain the most respectable connexions in life; and, as appears from his correspondence, took a lively interest in the welfare of Middleham, and was in habits of intimacy with the most exalted characters of the day up to the very time of his decease.

"Archbishop Hutton ‡ stood godfather to his youngest son, Deo-

* The following entry of her burial is extracted from the parish register:—"Mary, daughter of Thos. Smithson, of Moulton, Gentleman, and wife of Luke Cotes, Master of Arts, Dean of this Church, died the 17 day and was buried the 19 day of December, 1740."

† The monument here alluded to is now nowhere to be seen, and if erected, as above stated, must have been since removed: an act which reflects no credit on the parties, whoever they may have been, that were accessory to such desecration.

‡ Doctor Matthew Hutton, Archbishop of Canterbury, b. in 1692, d. 19th March, 1758, second son of John Hutton, Esq., of Marske, com. Ebor. A family of great antiquity and high station, and memorable for having produced two archbishops, viz., the subject of the present notice, and Doctor Matthew Hutton, his direct ancestor, translated to the archiepiscopal see of York, 24th of March, 1594.—See Burke's Commoners, vol. iii. pp. 304, 305.

datus, who became an eminent merchant at Manchester, and is known as the author of an account of the earthquake at Lisbon, which appeared in 'The Gentleman's Magazine' of December 1755. His daughter, widow of Dr. Darbey, a physician of the Manchester infirmary, and his nephew, Luke Heslop, D.D., Archdeacon of Bucks, are still living.*

"Two other sons, Thomas and Theophilus, embraced the mercantile profession in London, and died leaving considerable fortunes: William, the second son, received a college education, and was afterwards tutor to Lord Verney. His third daughter, Catharine, married the Rev. John Wood, of Stockton; and Sophia died in Manchester, as did also her brother Deodatus."

The only memorial of the Dean's family in the parish register, besides the extract already given, is the interment of his daughter Constantia, in the month of September, 1729.

But there is a curious document still in existence, exhibiting another of the privileges exercised by the Deans of Middleham; and this is a licence † to Maria Stott, the wife of Thomas Stott, to practice as a midwife any where within his jurisdiction.

On the decease of Mr. Cotes, the deanery was bestowed on Edward Place, Master of Arts.‡

His installation is recorded in the following memorandum made in the parish register.§

* This account was written in the year 1823.

† Middleham MSS. Appendix P.

‡ The family of Plaice has long been connected with the district of Richmondshire, but it does not clearly appear which branch of it produced the sire and son who were deans of Middleham. Amongst the miscellaneous pedigrees Harl. MSS. 1174, 150 b, is one commencing with Edward Lord Plaice, temp. Edward II. and carrying the line to the close of the sixteenth century.

§ See also Harl. MSS.

"Memorandum, that on Saturday, the first day of May, one thousand seven-hundred and forty-two, his Majesty's grant of the dignity and deanery of the collegiate church of Middleham, in the county of York, dated the first day of March last, was publicly read in the said collegiate church immediately after divine service; and also a mandamus to install or assign unto Edward Place, Master of Arts, a stall in the choir, and a place in the said church, according to custom; whereupon, a stall was assigned, at the request of the said Edward Place, by John Clayton, Rector of Wensley, Thomas Gale, Rector of Scruton, Thomas Nelson, Rector of Fingall, James Hayton, Vicar of Hornby, Gregory Elsley, Curate of Patrick-Brompton, George Shillito, Vicar of Thornton-Steward, Mark Brathwait, Doctor of Laws, and several others, which said stall the said Edward Place accepted and took possession of as Dean of Middleham."

The first act of Dean Place, and that within two days after his installation, was the appointment of Mark Brathwait, Doctor of Laws, as his commissary or official principal; and under this Dean commenced the issue of marriage licences and publication of banns, as in other parishes; although it would appear, that when the Dean himself celebrated a marriage, he performed it, as his predecessors had done, without either publication or licence first granted.

This we infer from the peculiar manner in which the entries of weddings (and they were numerous) are made; for wherever a marriage is recorded, which had been performed by any clergyman save the Dean, there is added "by virtue of licence," sometimes from Mark Brathwait, Doctor of Laws, sometimes from Mr. Edward Place, Dean of this Collegiate Church, or "by publication;" but when, in a few instances, the Dean himself performed the nuptial ceremony, then the entry simply is ".....

were married by the reverend the Dean of this Collegiate Church," without any reference either to banns or licence.

Dean Place, who had at one time been Vicar of Well, became subsequently Rector of the valuable living of Bedale,* which he held for some years, together with the deanery of Middleham; but this latter preferment he resigned in the year 1754, and was succeeded in it by his son, Edward Place the younger, who had been previously the curate, minister, or clerk sacristane. His instalment is recorded nearly in the same terms as that of his father.

It may here be mentioned that during the entire incumbency of the elder Dean Place, there were regular courts held annually in addition to the Dean's visitation, called "Courts of Correction," to which persons guilty of notorious crimes, punishable by the ecclesiastical laws, were cited, and "the office of the judge promoted against them."

In several cases thus recorded, the decree of court was that the convicted party should † "extract an order of penance," to be performed on one or other of certain specified Sundays; and from the same source we find that the penances were duly discharged.

A similar plan was pursued during the earlier years of the second Dean Place; although the last entry we find of a penance having been actually performed, occurs in 1755.

Each of the Dean Places seems to have pursued the quiet tenor

* Mr. Place held the Rectory of Bedale from the year 1731 till his death, which we find, by the following extract from the register of burials in that parish, occurred in "1775; May the 10th. The Rev. Edward Place, A.M., Rector of this parish." He was interred beneath a pew, belonging to the Rector, in the chancel, but without any inscription. Among the bequests recorded in the south aisle there is the following:

"The Rev. Edward Place, Clerk, late Rector of this parish, by will left twenty pounds, the yearly interest thereof to be laid out in coals for the use of the Brethren of Bedale Hospital."

† Middleham Court Book, passim.

of his way, apart from the busy scenes and vexing cares of public life; but Dean Place the younger was not exempted from severe domestic trial—blessed with an only child, he was doomed to survive his loss; born, as we find by the following memorial, in 1763.

"Edward, the son of the Reverend Edward Place, Dean of this Collegiate Church, and Anne his wife, was baptized by the Reverend Edward Place, Rector of Bedale, his grandfather, June 1."

He closed his brief career in America, during the war of the revolution, only a year before the death of his father, who lies interred under a marble slab, marked with his initials E. P., and to whose memory, as well as to that of his son, a mural monument has been placed with the following inscription, against the north wall of the choir.

"EDWARDUS PLACE, A.M.
HUJUS ECCLESIÆ PER ANNOS 30.
DECANUS INFRA SEPULTUS
ÆTATIS 58^vo, MENSIS APRILIS 27° DIE, ANNO CHRISTI 1785;
PLACIDE MORTEM OBIVIT.
PASTOR FIDISSIMUS
CONJUGI PRÆCIPUE INDULGENS
OMNIBUS PERGRATUS
NULLI INIMICUS.
FILII UNICI EDWARDI AMANTISSIMUS
QUI APUD TRANSATLANTICANOS
PRO PATRIA MILITANS
IN MORBUM IMPLICITUS
VICESIMUM PRIMUM AGENS ANNUM
IMMATURA MORTE DECESSIT
ILLIUS EJUSQUE MEMORIÆ
CONJUX ET MATER MÆSTISSIMA
HOC MONUMENTUM PONERE CURAVIT."

Grief for the premature loss of his only child accelerated, it is said, the death of Dean Place at the early age of 58; and he was succeeded in the deanery by

Robert Boucher Nickolls, LL.B.,* whose installation took place on the 11th day of August, 1786.

This gentleman, a native of the West Indies, was presented, in 1779, to the rectory of Stoney Stanton, Leicestershire, by the Earl of Huntingdon; and, in 1785, to the collegiate deanery of Middleham, through the interest of the Duke of Northumberland, for his services as chaplain to the 5th regiment of foot in America; and for his loyalty in that war.†

Dean Nickolls was a man of no ordinary stamp; living during a period of unexampled excitement, and one fraught with imminent danger to our national liberties and glorious constitution, he was distinguished by his energetic and uncompromising exertions in defence of those institutions, civil and ecclesiastical, which he so venerated and loved. Associated, too, as he was, with the most distinguished men of the day, Wilberforce,‡ Granville Sharp, Clarkson, and their companions, in endeavouring to break the bonds of African slavery, and to remove from their country that foul stain which had so long sullied the lustre of its diadem, he neglected not the while the duties imposed upon him as Dean of Middleham.

Of this, the several valuable memoranda made in his own handwriting in the parish register, and the records in the court book, afford abundant evidence.

* Middleham MSS. Appendix Q.

† Gentleman's Magazine, vol. LXXXIV. ii. 405.

‡ Life of Wilberforce, vol. I. p. 161, et passim.

The concurrent testimony of many respectable individuals who knew him well, and still survive, prove how rigid was Dean Nickolls in the performance of his own functions, and how strict in endeavouring to enforce good conduct, moral and religious,* in those entrusted to his jurisdiction; requiring exemplary behaviour, not merely within the walls of God's House, and during the hours of divine service, but also, after those services were concluded, walking into different parts of the parish to enforce order and decorum among the inhabitants.

Two records which he has left behind evince his decisive proceedings in more flagrant cases of irreverence.

The first, which is a very curious document, is extracted at full length from the parish register:

* The following extract bears strongly on this point: "As Mr. Hardy has totally confined his 'Tribute' to one point in the many composing the late Dean's character, perhaps you will allow me to call your observation to a document, strongly characteristic of him as an excellent and attentive parish priest. The following is a copy of a 'notice' which he dispersed throughout his cure, previous to the fast-day, in February, 1807.

'NOTICE.

'The Rector of this parish [a] does hereby earnestly exhort and premonish all persons in this his cure, strictly to observe the King's proclamation for a General Fast on Wednesday, the 25th instant, by resorting to the House of God for the solemnities of devotion, in due season for the commencement of the service, both in the morning and in the afternoon; also by a religious abstinence till the service is over, and by a pious conduct in their families afterwards; and all publicans are premonished not to entertain any guests or travellers during the hours of divine worship. The most serious regard to this admonition is enjoined upon all in this day of public danger, as they desire the favour and blessing of Almighty God, upon themselves and their country.'

"The Dean was particularly attentive to the 'Youth of the Flock,' and I cannot avoid expressing an earnest wish, that some of his reverend brethren will endeavour to raise a 'tribute' to his clerical character, and snatch it from that oblivion which encircles the gloomy mansions of the dead, and hides their excellencies or their foibles from the observation of posterity. C.R." Gentleman's Magazine, May, 1816, p. 400.

[a] Stoney Stanton.

"Burials, October 29th, 1792.

"I enter under the head of burials as spiritually dead the names of

JOHN SADLER,

Clerk to Mr. John Breare, Attorney-at-Law, of this place; and

CHRISTOPHER FELTON,

Clerk to Mr. Luke Yarker, Attorney-at-Law, of this place; first for irreverent behaviour in church a second time, after public reproof on a former occasion of the same sort; and, secondly, when mildly admonished by me not to repeat the same, they both made use of the most scandalous and insolent words concerning myself, for which I thought proper to pass a public censure upon them after sermon (though they were wilfully absent), in the face of the congregation; and enter the mention of the same in this book, that the names of those insolent young men may go down to posterity as void of all reverence to God and his ministers. Witness my hand,

ROBT. B. NICKOLLS, Dean.

Witness, ROGR. DAWSON, Regr."

And when in January, 1799, Thomas Ibbotson, who was then parish clerk, had been guilty of gross misconduct in the House of God, the Dean immediately caused him to be cited into his court, where, after due investigation of the charges alleged against him, he pronounced the following sentence: *

"That Thomas Ibbotson should be suspended from the office

* Middleham Court Book.

of parish clerk, without forfeiting the wages, until after the 10th day of February then next, being the first Sunday in Lent; that he do not approach the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on that day, that, by the prayers of Lent, he might be fitted for it at the festival of Easter; and, lastly, that, on the first Sunday of the ensuing Lent, he should stand during service until the Nicene creed was read, before the font under the gallery, and then depart to a private seat, after having read distinctly the following acknowledgement, viz.:—

"I, Thomas Ibbotson, do acknowledge that, on the day of the Feast of Circumcision, I behaved very irreverently in the House of God: that I interrupted the divine service, and conducted myself in such a manner, both in the church and out of it, as to give just cause of offence to the congregation then present: that I was led to this misconduct by resentment, and not being perfectly sober at the time, for which I beg pardon of Almighty God, and do promise to order myself with greater sobriety and decency for the time to come."

Mr. Nickolls resided during the latter part of his life principally at his rectory in Leicestershire, where he died, loved and respected, on the 11th of October, 1814, in the 72nd year of his age, and the 29th of his installation.*

So prominent was the part which this excellent Dean took in the varied and important events of his day, that the following tribute to his character from the elegant pen of J. Stockdale Hardy, Esq., of Leicester, which originally appeared in "The

* "The following elegant epitaph now graces a neat tablet that has been erected at Stoney Stanton, to the memory of this truly worthy Dean:—

Gentleman's Magazine" for March 1816, may, we conceive, be most appropriately added here entire.

"It is much to be regretted that sufficient materials for a regular biographic memoir of the lamented deceased do not appear to exist, since, had they so existed, the public would doubtless have been favoured with such a memoir from an abler pen than the one which now ventures to direct the attention of your readers to the shrine of departed worth.

"It would be impossible to delineate a faithful character of the late Dean without occupying too large a portion of your columns; indeed I shall not presume to attempt, what I know I am utterly incapable of performing; and I shall therefore, in the present instance, totally confine myself to that point of view, wherein he furnished us with so striking an example of the union of the sacerdotal and citizen characters, an union which, in his person, was of

Underneath
are deposited the mortal remains of
The Very Reverend
Robert Boucher Nickolls, LL.B.
Dean of Middleham, and
Rector of this parish.

His Christian zeal and extensive learning were shown by numerous publications in Defence of Religion; and a diffusive charity, the fruit of his faith, shone forth in his daily example. After a long life, spent in the Service of his Saviour, in whom alone he trusted for acceptance with God, he was removed by a short illness to eternal rest,
on the 11th day of October, 1814,
in the 75th year of his age.

This monument was erected by his afflicted surviving Brother, James Bruce Nickolls, of Alexandria, in Virginia, in grateful remembrance of his private virtues and public usefulness.

'The memory of the just is blessed.'"

Gent. Mag. June 1818, p. 485.

great advantage to both church and state, and proved him to be an orthodox divine, while it shewed him to be a loyal and active member of the community.

"When that enemy to society and mankind the French Revolution began to disperse its specious but baneful principles, the Dean was among the foremost of those truly patriotic citizens who raised their warning voices in exposing its dangerous tendency and ultimate object; like Themistocles, he preferred 'nipping the bud, to stemming the torrent;' and, in the prosecution of his object, he enlisted all his natural and intellectual powers. In this Revolution he read not only a barefaced attempt upon social order and decorum, but a direct attack upon Christianity itself. As a citizen, he repelled the first; and as a presbyter, he defended the Church against the second. The press teemed with the labours of his pen, while the pulpit echoed with the sound of his voice; and when the monster dared to erect its crest with additional boldness, like a faithful centinel, he grappled with it in its very den, refuted the assertions of its friends on their own data, and endeavoured to bring into public odium those principles, which, while they spoke 'smooth things' to the face, were secretly aiming a fatal stab at the dearest privileges of our country, and the sacred institutions of our ancestors. Convinced that civil society was of divine appointment, and that its various ramifications were necessary to its due preservation, the Dean manfully unmasked those flattering, deceptive insinuations which were thrown out by designing men, and the object of which was to render the lower classes of his countrymen dissatisfied with that station in life which an All-wise Providence had assigned them.

"'There must be wisdom and virtue in the higher orders of the

community,' said the Dean at this eventful period, 'to connect and preserve, to defend and direct the several parts of the machine of civil society; while the patient labours and endeavours of the meanest are equally requisite, though subservient, to the prosperity of nations; the foundation of the noblest building, though laid deep and low, and composed of the coarsest materials, has yet the merit of sustaining the whole work, and is no less essential to it than the stateliest and most beautiful pillars.'*

"Thus was it that this firm friend to our happy constitutions, endeavoured to direct the passions of his indigent neighbours into a proper channel, and to prevent them from falling into that labyrinth which had been prepared for their reception by the agents of revolutionary frenzy, and which could not have failed of overwhelming their ill-fated possessors with misery and despair, had they madly precipitated themselves into its tremendous gulph.

"The Dean's labours in the above respect were not in vain: he had the gratification of knowing that his addresses and his writings contributed, in several instances, to arrest the progress of some who were preparing to shake hands 'with the abettors of French politics and the vindicators of French atheism,'† and to recall others who had formed so dangerous an union, to a proper sense of their civil and religious duties. Although his personal conferences possessed much of the *fortiter in re*, and stood much in need of the *suaviter in modo*, yet his zeal for the success of the cause in which he had embarked, and his manifest sincerity in his wishes for the welfare of those whom he addressed, supplied, in a

* See "The Duty of supporting and defending our Country and Constitution: a Discourse preached in the Collegiate Church of Middleham, Feb. 10, 1793, on the prospect of a war."

† See his "Essay on the principles of French Civism," published in 1792.

great measure, this defect, and induced them to listen to advice communicated in an earnest, though uncouth form, and of such a nature as to furnish ample food for the reflection of the sober hour, and to induce them to forsake the inauspicious convoy under which they either had sailed, or were preparing to embark; to those who yet retained their scruples as to the propriety of a Monarchical Government, he would apply the observation of Tacitus; and while he told them to remember the many blessings which they enjoyed under the happy Government of their own country, he would remind them, in the words of that historian, 'Reipublicæ forma, laudare facilius quam evenire; et si evenit, haud diuturna esse potest.'

"When that memorable question of the Abolition of the Slave Trade was brought under the consideration of a British Legislature, and before the view of a British public—when the towering eloquence of a PITT supported the persuasive eloquence of a WILBERFORCE in this great cause of humanity and justice—the Dean was not idle. The abolition of the above traffic had been an event which he had fondly cherished the hope of witnessing, ever since his personal observation, when abroad,* of the inhumanity of Guinea captains, and (generally speaking) the avaricious temperament of West India planters, had convinced him of the unhappy state in which the African negroes were placed;† torn

* "The Dean was a native of the West Indies."

† The above is the substance of what he once mentioned to me in conversation; probably, however, the Dean entertained by far too harsh an opinion of the Guinea merchants and West India planters: it is well known that many of the latter were men of the most correct notions and humane habits; and, with regard to the former, candour compels us to hope that, amongst them, there were many whose employment had not so steeled the heart as to render it impervious to the calls of humanity!

frequently when adults from their native soil, to serve the private purposes of others—obliged to be fellow-labourers with those who had been accustomed to the occupation from earliest infancy—he commiserated these wretched creatures, who were impelled, contrary to nature, to follow an employment to which they felt no attachment, to the due performance of which no moral or social ties urged them, and in which their instructors were the Creoles, and their incitement to labour the fear of chastisement. As a freeman of a Nation professing to rank the highest in the scale of nations, as the supporter of freedom, and the friend of humanity, the Dean felt it his duty to protest against the continuance of a traffic, which was a stranger to the name of the one, and a daily violator of the laws of the other; and as a presbyter of the Christian church, he felt himself no less imperiously called upon to raise his voice against a system at direct variance with the fundamental doctrines which she preached— doctrines which taught men to 'love one another,' and which told them, that 'all things whatsoever we would that men should do unto us, we should do even so to them.'—Alike unmoved at the reproach of being a religious enthusiast, which was cast upon him on the one hand, and the charge of inconsistency as a favourer of revolutionary principles, which was alleged against him on the other, the Dean steadily pursued his object; telling the one party, that if a fellow-feeling for the sufferings of fellow-creatures, and a desire of alleviating those sufferings, could be called religious enthusiasm, he acknowledged himself as labouring under that disorder;* and the

† "As his reply to the above cavil, I could fancy our lamented friend adopting the celebrated sentiment of the Roman Comedian—'Homo sum, et humani nihil a me alienum puto;' a sentiment, which is said to have been received with reiterated plaudits by a

other, that if the desire of civilizing a nation rendered unprincipled and barbarous by intestine commotions, occasioned by resistance to illegal captures, savoured of revolutionary principles, he was proud in entertaining them. The endeavours of the Dean to bring the West India planters to a sense of their true interests, were tantamount to those which he used to impede the progress of infidelity and disaffection. Numerous were the journeys which he took to forward this great cause of national justice and retribution; and the value of his services may be collected from the public vote of thanks with which he was honoured, from the society that was formed to assist in accomplishing the great object, which Mr. Wilberforce and his parliamentary associates had in view.* The publications on this subject which owed their appearance to his prolific pen, were numerous; and it is greatly to be regretted, that our lamented friend never kept an accurate account of the pamphlets and incidental tracts, which on this, as on other great questions, he gave to the world. Happily he lived to see the fruits of his labours in the abolition of this detested traffic—an abolition produced, not by the blaze of eloquence, or the trick of declamation; but by solid, well-founded conviction; wrought on the minds of our Legislators by a slow yet sure progress, and which terminated, as it was certain of doing, in their 'breaking the bonds' of Afric slavery, and 'throwing away from their native country the stigma with which she had been so long branded.'

Roman audience, and which has been handed down to succeeding ages, as one, 'which speaks with such elegance and simplicity the language of nature, and supports the native independence of man.'"

* "I believe the ever-to-be-remembered Granville Sharp presided when the above vote was passed."

"When the Roman Catholics petitioned our Legislators for what was called Catholic Emancipation—when they boldly asked for an unqualified repeal of those laws which have been justly denominated 'the bulwarks of our Constitution,' the Dean was found at his post. Convinced that a compliance with the above request would be equivalent to an extinction of the Protestant ascendancy in this country, he considered himself called upon, as a presbyter and a citizen, to stand in the breach on behalf of the Protestant Church and State to which he belonged; and, with all his ability to protect them from the infliction of so mortal a wound, as an unrestricted concession of Roman Catholic claims could not have failed of giving them. Perhaps no one, in an historical point of view, was more competent to argue this great national question than the Dean was; and, although it is to be lamented that his zeal sometimes exceeded his prudence, pending the discussion, yet his firmness in resisting what he thought to be wrong, and his equal firmness in supporting what he conceived to be right, was deserving of universal admiration. Believing that the Roman Catholic question had never been sufficiently considered by many who had the Protestant cause thoroughly at heart, he endeavoured to excite their attention to it, as a question of the utmost consequence, and as one upon the decision of which depended either the maintenance or the downfall of our civil and religious privileges. With every respect for the Church of Rome as a true branch of the Catholic Church, he did not hesitate to expose those corruptions which in the later periods of Ecclesiastical History had crept into her pale, and robbed her of that purity which he believed the Church of England to have retained. While he detested the modern Pope, he venerated the ancient Bishop of Rome; and

his opposition to the claims of the Roman Catholics arose from his dread of the operation of those principles, which teach them to persecute and domineer, instead of to convince and unite.*

"In that memorable year (1812) when his country was placed in so awful and novel a situation, when the mighty legions of France were preparing to enter the austere clime of Russia, and, by a conquest of her vast domains, to pave the way for a general subjugation of Europe, then was it that the Dean so greatly distinguished himself in his exertions against the claims of the Roman Catholics; though far beyond the meridian of life, and sinking fast into the 'vale of years,' yet the urgency of the occasion, and the peculiarly threatening aspect of public affairs, aroused his yet active spirit, and induced him once more to enter the 'tented field' on behalf of all that he held dear and sacred upon earth—the civil and ecclesiastical constitution of his country! His time at this moment was entirely devoted to the service of this sacred cause; and his labours to produce a general consideration of the subject amongst his Protestant countrymen, and to arouse them from that fatal lethargy into which they

* "It is unfortunate for the discussion of the Roman Catholic claims, that, unless great care be taken, the party opposing them is very frequently betrayed into the use of expressions, which are calculated to wound the feelings of most honourable and respectable characters. It would be absurd to deny that amongst the Roman Catholics there is every thing good, great, and noble; and this is most sincerely to be regretted, when it is considered, that those who are otherwise every way calculated to be the ornaments and pride of their native country, are necessarily excluded, by the fundamental laws of that country, from directing her affairs or assisting at her Legislative Councils. It would give me great pain, if, in the general observations which I have made, I should hurt the feelings of any member of the Roman Catholic body; but it would have given me far greater pain if, to avoid hurting those feelings, I had hoodwinked the consideration of a great national question."

appeared to have fallen, were unremitting;* but his success in these particulars was by no means equal to his expectations; and he was almost going to sit down in despair; was preparing to write 'Ichabod' on the gates of that Church in which he delighted—when the ever-memorable Charge of the Bishop of Lincoln burst upon the view of the public, and carried with it that conviction which had so long been wanting to fan the embers of Protestant zeal into a flame. Happily the Archdeaconry of Leicester was amongst those districts which first caught that hallowed flame; and the Dean was amongst the most active of those clergymen who assisted in directing its course. In the month of November, in the above year, a meeting of the clergy was holden, for the purpose of petitioning the Legislature against any further concessions being made to the Roman Catholic body, and early in the month of December, a very spirited and able petition was presented from them to the Lords, by their esteemed diocesan; and to the Commons, by their county representatives. From this time until the great question received its decision, the Dean remained in a state of the most anxious suspense; but when the intelligence arrived that the House of Commons had virtually rejected the claims, he gave a vent to his joy, and improved the subject by a very able discourse preached a few Sundays afterwards.

"Subsequent to this period, and during the life of the Dean, no attempts worth noticing were made by the Roman Catholics to

* The Tracts, &c., which the Dean wrote and dispersed upon this, his favourite question, were (I had almost said) innumerable: at the period above referred to, a week seldom passed without one of them making its appearance; and his sitting-room bore a greater resemblance to a compositor's study than the apartment of a private clergyman.

obtain their favourite object; notwithstanding this, he bore the subject in mind, and it was one of his latest requests to an intimate friend, never to neglect an opportunity of calling the attention of the public to the point. In a letter written a few months previous to his decease, speaking upon the topic, he remarks, that 'it may seem improper to introduce any subject which may have the slightest tendency to provoke discussion, or revive the disputes of former days, at a time when the welcome appearance of peace has been universally hailed with the most fervent rejoicings by a delighted people—when the honours of a grateful country have been heaped upon the heads of returning victors, and nothing has been heard but the cheerful sound of congratulation' (alluding to the rejoicings occasioned by the peace then lately concluded), 'but,' continues the Dean, 'when it is recollected, that our dearest interests may be materially injured by our silence, and that an interval of tranquillity may be made use of to lull our suspicions and destroy our energies, by inviting our attention to the ephemeral scenes of present gaiety, when we should be engaged in making preparations for the repulsion of a future attack upon our national liberties; I hope you will not consider my present allusion to the Roman Catholic Question as either unseasonable or improper.' The Dean had his request granted, in not living to witness the constitution of his country, in his opinion, either altered or infringed upon; and I am quite sure, Mr. Urban, that I am echoing your sentiments, when, in allusion to that constitution, I exclaim, ESTO PERPETUA!

"Until, therefore, Sir, sufficient materials be formed to enable a more powerful pen to rescue the memory of Dean Nickolls from the wreck of time, by giving the world a regular memoir of his

life and writings,* this sincere but feeble tribute to that memory may serve to show posterity, through the medium of your perennial pages, that, in his person civil society has lost an able advocate, humanity a firm friend, and the constitution of his country a faithful presbyter and citizen!"

With Mr. Nickolls must close our brief and imperfect History of the Deans of Middleham. He was suceeeded in the Deanery by the Very Reverend P. S. Wood, LL.D., the present Dean, whose installation took place on the 3rd day of December, 1814.

* "He published, in 1782, a discourse preached at Leicester, May 6, at the Visitation of the Archdeacon, from 1 Tim. iv. 15. under the title of 'The general objects of Clerical attention considered, with particular reference to the present times;' in which the peculiar objects of Christianity are inculcated with great energy, in opposition to the principles of Hobbism; and he distinguished himself honourably in 1788, by a very humane pamphlet on the Slave Trade, under the title of 'A Letter to the Treasurer of the Society instituted for the purpose of effecting the Abolition of the Slave Trade.' In answer to a request of Mr. Nichols to be furnished with a list of his publications for his 'History of Leicestershire,' the good Dean said, 'I have done nothing of importance enough to merit notice; and the things I have published, about half a dozen Sermons, and nearly twenty anonymous tracts, I have set so little value upon, that I have not even kept copies by me, except of a very few of the printed ones. The MSS. were left in the hands of the different printers; and I have not even a list of the titles. Some of the last things, small pieces, were published in the Anti-Jacobin; one upon the Dissolution of Parliament—Considerations on the Rejection of the Catholic Bill, printed at Hinckley, and inserted by the Anti-Jacobin (not by my desire) for April, or May, or June 1807; another on the Curates proposed Bill in the same Review, in one of those months in the next year, 1808; another, on the Authenticity of St. Matthew's Gospel, in answer to Evanson, December, 1808; the last, signed Eusebius, in the same Review for May, 1809, 'On the Growth of Schism in the Church, and the means of checking it.'

"Mr. Nichols was indebted to this gentleman for some interesting memoirs of the Rev. John Bold, formerly Curate of Stoney Stanton.[a] These memoirs have been adopted by Mr. Chalmers in his 'Biographical Dictionary.'

"By the death of this worthy Divine, the cause of true Religion and the Church of England has been deprived of a most valuable friend and advocate; and all the poor with whom he was in the remotest degree connected have sustained a severe loss."—Gentleman's Magazine, vol. lxxxiv. ii. 405.

[a] See "History of Leicestershire," vol. iv. p. 975.

1846.

MIDDLEHAM COLLEGIATE CHURCH,

(Founded by Richard Duke of Gloucester, 1478.)

DEAN,

*Very Rev. Peter Scrimshire Wood, LL.D., 1814

CANONS,	CANONRIES,	
†P. A. L. Wood, A.M. . .	St. George's	1844
‡William Atthill, B.D. (Sub-Dean)	St. Catharine's	1839
§G. A. Burnaby, A.M. . .	St. Ninian's	1842
‖John De La Feld, A.M. .	St. Cuthbert's	1842
¶Charles Kingsley, B.A. . .	St. Anthony's	1845
**M. D. Duffield, B.D. . .	St. Barbara's	1843

COMMISSARY, &c.

Rev. William Atthill.

REGISTRAR AND CHAPTER CLERK,

††J. B. Langhorne, Esq., Richmond.

ORGANIST, Mr. Jones. PARISH CLERK, Mr. J. Wright.

SEXTON, Mr. J. Fisher.

CHURCH WARDENS,

Messrs. Robt. Johnson, Thos. Midgley, and Wm. Lodge.

* Rector of Littleton, Middlesex, and Vicar of Middleton, Norfolk.

† Curate of Littleton, Middlesex.

‡ Chaplain to Right Hon. Lord Louth.

§ Rector of St. Peter's Martin, Bedford ; and Chaplain to H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge.

‖ A Count of the Holy Roman Empire ; Vicar of Tortington, Sussex ; and Domestic Chaplain to the Earl of Limerick.

¶ Rector of Eversley, Hants ; and Domestic Chaplain to Viscount Sidney.

** Vicar of Stebbing, Essex ; and Chaplain to H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge.

†† Dep. Registrar for the Archdeaconry of Richmond.

Catalogue of the Deans of Middleham.

Date of Installation, or first Record of.		Date of Death, Resignation, or last Record of.
1478	William Beverley . . .	
——	John Halle . . .	1515
1515	Simon Welden, LL.B. . .	June, 1535
1536	William Willes . . .	Jan. 1552
1609	Henry Pagett . . .	April, 1618
1620	Nathaniell Pagett . . .	Novr. 1636
1638	Joshuah Pullein . . .	Decr. 1657
1660	Thomas Holdsworth, M.A. .	1681
1681	Christopher Coleby, M.A. .	July, 1727
1718	Luke Cotes, M.A. . .	July, 1739
1742	Edward Place, M.A. . .	October, 1754
1754	Edward Place, junr. M.A. .	April, 1785
1785	Robert Boucher Nickolls, LL.B. .	October, 1814
1814	Peter Scrimshire Wood, LL.D. .	Diu Vivat!

Catalogue of the Clerks Sacristane, Curates* or Ministers for Divine Services and Offices.

Date of first Record of.		Date of last Record of.
——	Michael Watherwicke, Minister . .	1661
1681	Robert Turner, Claricus . . .	——
——	James King, Curate . . .	1742
1742	Richard Walker, Curate to the Dean .	1748

* In this Catalogue each minister is designated by the title affixed to his name in the parish registers or other documents, in many instances by the individual himself.

Date of first Record of.		Date of last Record of.
1748	Henry Hugill, Curate of Middleham .	1749
1749	Edward Place, Jun., Curate of Middleham	1754
——	John Steble, Curate . . .	1768
1768	Lister Metcalfe, Curate . . .	1773
1773	Thomas Nicholson, Curate . . .	1777
1777	Alexander Simpson, Minister . .	1787
1787	Christopher Lawson, Curate . .	1789
1789	John Cockcroft, Minister and Curate .	1834
1834	Alfred Sadler, Curate . . .	1837
1838	H. S. Templeton, Curate to the Dean .	1843
1839	William Atthill, Minister . . .	——

Surrogates of Middleham.

May 3, 1742	Mark Brathwait, LL.D., Commissary or Official Principal.
May 9, 1749	John Nursaw, Clerk.
May 17, 1754	Rev. Edward Place, Jun. Rev. W. Browne.
Oct. 26, 1754	Rev. W. Browne. Rev. Edward Place, Sen.
Nov. 1, 1758	Rev. Leonard Howson.
Jan. 5, 1765	Rev. John Steble.
June 10, 1769	Rev. Lister Metcalfe.
Aug. 11, 1786	Rev. Leonard Howson.
July 31, 1789	Rev. John Cockcroft.
Oct. 1834	Rev. John Thompson.
Dec. 27, 1842	Rev. William Atthill, Commissary & Surrogate.

Registrars of Middleham.

	1721	Mr. John Waite.
May	17, 1742	Mr. Thomas Raper, Bedale.
April	12, 1771	Mr. John Raper, Bedale.
Decr.	1, 1772	Mr. Wm. Baynes, Middleham.
Feb.	3, 1779	Mr. Wm. Luke Yarker, Middleham.
June	25, 1788	Mr. Wm. Ward, Askrigg.
Oct.	26, 1792	Mr. Roger Dawson, Middleham.
March	11, 1794	Mr. Chr. Topham, Middleham.
June	1832	Mr. Ottiwell Tomlin, Richmond.
March	1842	Mr. Ottiwell Tomlin, Jun., Richmond.
Jan.	1845	Mr. J. B. Langhorne, Richmond.

Parish Clerks.

Henry Brunton, Clerk of this Parish, was buried ye day of June, 1657.

Thomas Burton, 1702.

James Northall, Parish Clerk, ye 1st of May, 1720.

William Bateman, May ye 17th, 1721.

Francis Ibbotson, 1764.

Thomas Ibbotson, 1772.

Francis Horner, 1829.

John Wright, 1831.

Churchwardens of the Collegiate Church and Parish of Middleham.

1715. Thomas Wreather, Christopher Dixon, Robert Morfitt.
1741. George Langdale, Christopher Allen, Thomas Place.
1742. Thomas Simpson, Brian Burrell, Matcham Timms.
1743. Edmund Atkinson, John Barnet, William Wray.
1744. John Nottingham, Christopher Dixon, John Langdale.
1745. The same.
1746. Thomas Bateman, Thomas Scott, Francis Ibbotson.
1747. The same.
1748. Thomas Bateman, jun., John Bulmer, Robert Downes.
1749. Matthew Thompson, Thomas Place, Richard Dixon, jun.
1750. The same.
1751. John Barnet, Thomas Mersh, John Moody.
1752. John Nottingham, William Ripley, George Langdale.
1753. Brian Burrell, Thomas Haw, Thomas Bulmer.
1754. The same.
1755. Peter Dixon, Edmund Atkinson, Francis Temple.
1756. Thomas Simpson, John Langdale, jun., George Metcalfe.
1757. John Nottingham, John Langdale, Thomas Place.
1758. The same.
1759. Bryan Burrell, Thomas Haw, Simon Jefferson.
1760. Thomas Simpson, John Barnet, Thomas Bulmer.
1761. George Langdale, Richard Dixon, John Simpson.
1762. William Baynes, Peter Dixon, John Langdale.
1763. John Langdale, Bryan Burrell, Thomas Bulmer.
1764. John Nottingham, Simon Jefferson, John Simpson.
1765. Thomas Place, Thomas Haw, William Hauxwell.
1766. Thomas Barnett, Robert Gill, George Harrison.
1767. George Langdale, John Langdale, Thomas Harrison.

1768. Thomas Bulmer, Francis Stabler, Thomas Tenant.
1769. Mark Bulmer, John Place, Godfrey Deighton.
1771. Thomas Metcalfe, William Thwaites, John Prest.
1773. George Langdale, Thomas Haw, William Hauxwell.
1775. Thomas Haw, Thomas Harrison, Mark Bulmer.
1779. Thomas Harrison, Mark Bulmer, Thomas Place.
1784. Thomas Harrison, Mark Bulmer, George Hudson.
1787. Christopher Walker, John Oliver Crowther, Godfrey Deighton.
1788. George Langdale, John Kearton, Michael Pratt.
1794. John Kearton, John Dixon, Robert Burton.
1800. William Topham, Thomas Harrison, John Jackson.
1804. James Raper, Ralph Hauxwell.
1818. Ralph Hauxwell, James Ewbank, Anthony Cundall.
1820. Ralph Hauxwell, James Ewbank, John Bell.
1822. The same.
1823. James Ewbank, Robert Johnson, George Rider.
1824. James Ewbank, Robert Johnson, John Bell.
1825—1830. The same.
1831. James Ewbank, Robert Johnson, Thomas Midgley.
1834. Robert Johnson, Thomas Midgley, Ralph Warrior.
1837. The same.
1840. Robert Johnson, Thomas Lye, William Lodge.
1841. The same.
1843. Robert Johnson, Thomas Lye, Thomas Midgley.
1844. Robert Johnson, Thomas Midgley, William Lodge.
1845. The same.
1846. The same.

DOCUMENTS.

APPENDIX (A).

Letters Patent of King Edward IV.

(Introduction, p. 3.)

Edwardus Dei gratia rex Angliæ et Franciæ et dominus Hiberniæ omnibus ad quos præsentes literæ pervenerint salutem. Sciatis quod nos ad humilem supplicationem præcarissimi fratris nostri Ricardi ducis Gloucestriæ, de gratia nostra speciali concessimus et licenciam dedimus ac per præsentes concedimus et licenciam damus pro nobis et heredibus nostris, quantum in nobis est, præfato fratri nostro quod ipse heredes vel executores sui in honore domini nostri Jesu Christi et beatissimæ virginis Mariæ et sanctæ Alkildæ quoddam Collegium apud Midelham de Decano et sex Capellanis et quatuor clericis et de sex choristis ac uno clerico divina servicia et officia in ecclesia parochiali ibidem pro salubri statu nostro ac præcarissimæ consortis nostræ Elizabethæ reginæ Angliæ ac præfati fratris nostri et Annæ uxoris ejus et heredum suorum dum vixerimus et pro animabus nostris cum ex hac luce migraverimus, ac animabus illustrissimi principis Ricardi nuper ducis Eboraci fratris nostri, et fratrum et sororum nostrorum, ac omnium fidelium defunctorum, juxta ordinationem præfati fratris nostri heredum vel executorum suorum prædictorum in hac parte fiendam ministraturis et celebraturis imperpetuum facere, inire, exigere, creare, fundare, et stabilire possit et possint perpetuis futuris temporibus duraturum. Et quod iidem Decanus et Capellani et successores sui sint unum corpus in re et nomine, habeantque successionem perpetuam, ac commune sigillum pro negotiis et agendis Collegii prædicti imperpetuum deserviturum. Et quod iidem Decanus et Capellani Collegii prædicti et successores sui sint persones habiles et capaces in lege ad perquirendum terras, tenementa, et advocationes

ecclesiarum a quacumque persona sive quibuscumque personis eis dare concedere vel assignare volente vel volentibus sibi et successoribus suis imperpetuum; quodque ipsi et successores sui prædicti placitare et implacitari ac alia quæcumque facere possint, sicut alius ligeus noster regni nostri Angliæ facere possit, per nomen DECANI ET CAPELLANORUM COLLEGII RICARDI DUCIS GLOUCESTRIÆ DE MIDDELHAM IN COMITATE EBOR', et quod prædictus frater noster et heredes sui prædicti patroni Collegii prædicti sint et de fundatione ejusdem fratris nostri et patronatu heredum suorum prædictorum Collegium imperpetuum nuncupetur, ac Collegium prædictum cum factum, initum, erectum, creatum, fundatum et stabilitum fuerit, Collegium Ricardi ducis Gloucestriæ apud Middelham in comitatu prædicto fundatum temporibus futuris absque impetitione nostri vel heredum nostrorum nuncupari volumus, et ipsum fratrem nostrum fore fundatorem et heredes suos patronos ejusdem imperpetuum; et insuper de uberiori gratia nostra concessimus et licenciam dedimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris prædictis quantum in nobis est præfatis Decano et Capellanis Collegii prædicti et successoribus suis quod ipsi et successores sui terras, tenementa, redditus, servicia ac alias possessiones quascumque ac advocationes ecclesiarum ad valorem ducentarum marcarum per annum ultra omnia onera et reprisas, licet de nobis aut de aliis per quodcumque servitium teneantur, de quacumque persona sive quibuscumque personis ea eis dare, concedere, legare vel assignare volente vel volentibus perquirere et adquirere possint et recipere, habenda et tenenda eisdem Decano et Capellanis Collegii prædicti et successoribus suis tam in sustentationem divini servicii in Collegio prædicto quam in sustentationem Decani et Capellanorum Collegii prædicti et successorum suorum ac choristarum et clerici prædictorum pro tempore existentium imperpetuum, et eidem personæ sive eisdem personis quod ipsi vel ipse terras, tenementa, redditus, servicia, possessiones, ac advocationes prædictas ad annuum valorem prædictum ultra omnia onera et reprisas ut prædictum est dare, concedere, legare, vel assignare possit vel possint præfatis Decano et Capellanis Collegii prædicti et successoribus suis sicut prædictum est imperpetuum tenore præsentium similiter licenciam dedimus specialem, absque impetitione seu impedimento nostri vel heredum nostrorum, justiciorum, escaetorum, vicecomitum, ballivorum, seu aliorum ministrorum nostrorum vel heredum nostrorum quorumcumque et absque aliquo brevi de *Ad quod dampnum,* seu aliquo alio mandato regio aut aliquibus inquisitionibus superinde capiendis

aut aliquibus aliis literis regiis patentibus in hac parte prosequendis, faciendis, sive habendis, et absque fine seu feodo inde ad opus nostrum aliqualiter solvendo, statuto de terris et tenementis ad manum mortuam non ponendis aut aliquo alio statuto, actu, sive ordinatione inde incontrarium facto, edito, sive proviso non obstante. In cujus rei testimonium has literas nostras fieri fecimus patentes. Teste me ipso apud Westmonasterium vicesimo primo die Februarii anno regni nostri decimo septimo.

Per breve de privato sigillo et de datu prædicto, auctoritate parliamenti.—MORLAND.

APPENDIX (B).

COMMISSION OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK.

(Introduction, p. 5.)

LAURENCIUS permissione divina Eboracensis archiepiscopus, Angliæ primas, dilectis in Christo filiis magistris Roberto Bothe legum doctori nostræ metropoliticæ Eboracensis ecclesiæ decano, Willielmo Poteman archidiacono Clivelandiæ, Henrico Gillowe subdecano, et Thomæ Barow canonico et prebendario præfatæ ecclesiæ nostræ metropoliticæ Eboracensis, salutem, gratiam et benedictionem. Cum illustris et præpotens princeps et dominus dominus Ricardus dux Gloucestriæ dominus de Midelham et patronus ecclesiæ de Midelham prædictæ intendat ad laudem Dei et augmentationem cultus divini ecclesiam prædictam ampliare et eam majoribus redditibus et possessionibus dotare, ac numerum ministrorum in eadem augere, si per nos vel auctoritate nostra cum consensu omnium quorum interest, dicta ecclesia fuerit erecta in collegiatam, prout per nuntium ejusdem nobis literatorie destinatum accepimus, vobis, de quorum circumspectione et industria plene in Domino confidimus, communiter et divisim committimus et mandamus, quatenus, vocatis archidiacono Richmondiæ seu ejus procuratore aliisque interesse cognitum habentibus in speciali et omnibus aliis in generali ad dictam ecclesiam de Midelham seu alium locum honestum et insignem per vos seu aliquem vestrum deputandum

ad certum diem per vos vel vestrum aliquem statuendum, dictam ecclesiam parochialem ad petitionem et rogatum dicti domini ducis in collegiatam erigatis ac ipsam pro collegiata habendam et reputandam decernatis, ac etiam de inquisitione debita de fructibus, redditibus, et proventibus ejusdem certum numerum capellanorum et aliorum ministrorum prout facultates ejusdem suppetere ad hoc possunt in eadem ordinetis, de regimineque dictorum capellanorum ac ministrorum et cura parochianorum ac indempnitate nostra, dominorum decani et capituli ecclesiæ nostræ Eboracensis prædictæ, et dicti archidiaconi Richmondiæ aliorumque interesse habentium provideatis prout vobis melius videbitur expedire, juxta sacrorum canonum ac constitutionum legalium et provincialium nostræ provinciæ instituta, ceteraque omnia et alia singula facienda, exercenda et expedienda quæ in præmissis et circa ea necessaria fuerint seu quomodolibet opportuna, vobis communiter et divisim committimus vices nostras et plenam in Domino potestatem per præsentes. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum præsentibus apponi fecimus. Datum in manerio nostro de Suthwell sexto die mensis Augusti anno Domini Millessimo quadringentesimo septuagesimo octavo et nostræ translationis anno secundo.

APPENDIX (C).

Consent of William Beverley, Rector of Middelham.

(Introduction, p. 6.)

Universis et singulis Christi fidelibus præsentes literas inspecturis Willielmus Beverley capellanus, rector ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham archidiaconatus Richmondiæ, Eboracensis diocesis, salutem in Domino et fidem indubiam præsentibus adhibere. Cum inter cetera reparationis humanæ remedia missarum solempnia, in quibus pro salute vivorum et requie defunctorum altissimo Deo patri filius immolatur, fuerint præcipue merito judicanda et divinæ misericordiæ plurimum allectiva, dignum duximus ea quæ missarum celebria divinique cultus augmentum ac ministrorum Christi ampliationem in ecclesia militanti respiciunt pronis affectibus promovere; sane siquidem exhibita mihi nuper pro parte excellentissimi in Christo

principis et domini domini Ricardi ducis Gloucestriæ domini de Medylham archidiaconatus Richmondiæ Eboracensis diocesis antedicti ac ecclesiæ parochialis in eadem veri patroni petitio continebat, quod ipse excellentissimus princeps et dominus ad laudem Dei omnipotentis præexcelsæque ejusdem genetricis Mariæ ac omnium sanctorum et divini cultus continuum incrementum eandem ecclesiam parochialem de Medylham ampliare et eam majoribus redditibus et possessionibus dotare, numerum quoque ministrorum in eadem Deo devote famulantium augere proposuit et intendit, si per reverendissimum in Christo patrem et dominum dominum Laurencium permissione divina Eboracensem archiepiscopum Angliæ primatem et apostolicæ sedis legatum aut ejus per auctoritatem cum consensu venerabilium virorum decani et capituli dictæ ecclesiæ cathedralis Eboracensis reverendique viri magistri Johannis Shirwod sacræ theologiæ professoris archidiaconi Richmondiæ in ecclesia cathedrali Eboracensi, necnon mei Willielmi Beverley rectoris prænominati, ac omnium et singulorum quorum interest in hac parte, dicta ecclesia in collegiatam erecta fuerit. Quare a me pro parte ejusdem excellentissimi principis fuit humiliter supplicatum, quatenus erectioni ejusdem ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham auctoritate dicti reverendissimi patris faciendæ in collegiatam consentirem. Unde ego præfatus Willielmus Beverley, attendens propositum dicti excellentissimi principis fore laudabile meritorium at pium, quodque in divini cultus augmentum tendere manifeste dinoscitur, volens illis piis affectibus confovere, dictæ ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham erectioni in collegiatam auctoritate dicti reverendissimi patris faciendæ harum serie expresse consentio. Quæ omnia et singula universitati vestræ innotesco per præsentes. In quorum omnium præmissorum fidem atque testimonium, quia sigillum non habeo authenticum, ideo sigillum venerabilis viri reverendi viri domini officialis curiæ Eboracensis commissarii generalis præsentibus apponi procuravi. Et nos vero commissarius generalis antedictus ad instantiam et rogatum dicti domini Willielmi Beverley rectoris antedicti sigillum nostrum præsentibus apposuimus in fidem et testimonium omnium et singulorum præmissorum. Datum Eboraci, xx^{mo} die mensis Januarii anno Domini CCCC lxx viij^{o}.

J. (L.S.) HARYNGTON.

APPENDIX (D).

Act of the Erection of the Collegiate Church.

(Introduction, p. 7.)

Universis Sanctæ Matris Ecclesie filiis præsentes literas sive præsens publicum instrumentum visuris vel audituris, Thomas Barow canonicus et prebendarius ecclesiæ metropoliticæ Eboracensis, per reverendissimum in Christo patrem et dominum dominum Laurencium permissione divina Eboracensem archiepiscopum Angliæ primatem et apostolicæ sedis legatum, in causa sive negotio erectionis ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham archdiaconatus Richmondiæ Eboracensis diocesis in collegiatam, unacum venerabilibus viris magistris Roberto Bothe legum doctore præfatæ ecclesiæ metropoliticæ Eboracensis decano, Willielmo Poteman archidiacono Clivelandiæ in eadem ecclesia Eboracensi, et Henrico Gillow subdecano ejusdem ecclesiæ metropoliticæ Eboracensis, judex et commissarius, cum clausula communiter et divisim sufficienter et legitime deputatus, salutem in amplexibus nostri Salvatoris et fidem indubiam præsentibus adhibere. Noverit universitas vestra præfatum venerabilem virum magistrum Henricum Gillow et nos prænominatum Thomam Barow literas commissionis reverendissimi in Christo patris et domini domini Laurencii permissione divina Eboracensis archiepiscopi, Angliæ primatis, et apostolicæ sedis legati antedicti, sigilloque suo magno in cera coloris rubei pendente communitas, per venerabilem virum magistrum Nicholaum Loncastre in utroque jure bacallarium excellentissimi in Christo principis et domini domini Ricardi ducis Gloucestriæ domini de Medylham antedicti et ecclesiæ parochialis in eadem patroni procuratorem, suæ procurationis mandatum sub sigillo venerabilis viri reverendi viri domini officialis curiæ Eboracensis commissarii generalis in cera viridis coloris pendente realiter exhibentem in hæc verba—

Pateat universis per præsentes quod nos Ricardus dux Gloucestriæ dominus de Medylham et patronus ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham prædictæ dilectos nobis in Christo magistrum Nicholaum Loncastre in utroque jure bacallarium et dominum Willielmum Lowther capellanum conjunctim et eorum alterum per se divisim et insolido, ita quod non sit melior conditio occupantis, sed quod unus eorum inceperit id ipsorum alter

per se libere prosequi valeat mediare et finire, nostros certos et legitimos procuratores, actores, factores, negotiorum nostrum gestores ac nuntios speciales ordinavimus fecimus et constituimus, dantes et concedentes dictis procuratoribus nostris coujunctim et eorum alteri per se divisim et insolido potestatem generalem et mandatum speciale pro nobis et nomine nostro coram venerabilibus viris magistris Roberto Bothe legum doctore ecclesiæ metropoliticæ Eboracensis decano, Willielmo Poteman archidiacono Clivelandiæ, Henrico Gillow subdecano, et Thoma Barow canonico et prebendario præfatæ ecclesiæ metropoliticæ Eboracensis, quibuscumque diebus et locis congruis et oportunis, communiter et divisim comparendi ac eisdem conjunctim et eorum cuilibet divisim quasdam literas commissionis reverendissimi in Christo patris et domini domini Laurencii permissione divina ejusdem Eboracensis ecclesiæ archiepiscopi, Angliæ primatis et apostolicæ sedis legati, in negotio erectionis præfatæ ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham in collegiatam præfatis venerabilibus viris cum clausula communiter et divisim directas præsentandi et exhibendi, eosdemque venerabiles viros conjunctim et eorum quemlibet per se divisim ut præmittitur onus executionis commissionis prædictæ in se communiter et divisim assumere, dictamque ecclesiam parochialem de Medylham forma dictæ commissionis servata in collegiatam erigere, ac ipsam pro collegiata habendam et reputandam decernere, certum quoque numerum capellanorum et aliorum ministrorum postquam dicta ecclesia parochialis in collegiatam erecta fuerit prout facultates ejusdem ecclesiæ suppetunt in eadem ordinare, ceteraque omnia aliâ et singula quæ in hujusmodi causa sive negotio necessaria fuerint facere, exercere et expedire, requirendi, petendi et humiliter rogandi, juramentum insuper quodcunque licitum et honestum in hac parte requisitum in animam nostram præstandi et jurandi, et generaliter omnia alia et singula faciendi, exercendi et expediendi quæ in præmissis et circa ea necessaria fuerint quomodolibet vel opportuna, licet mandatum de se magis exigantur speciale. Promittimus insuper nos ratum, gratum, atque firmum perpetuo habituros totum et quicquid dicti procuratores nostri vel eorum alter fecerint aut fecerit in præmissis seu aliquo præmissorum, sub ypotheca et obligatione omnium bonorum nostrorum, de quo cautionem exponimus per præsentes. In quorum omnium fidem et testimonium, quia sigillum ad manus non habemus autenticum, ideo sigillum venerabilis viri reverendi viri officialis curiæ Eboracensis commissarii generalis præsentibus apponi procuravimus. Et nos commissarius generalis antedictus, ad instan-

tiam et petitionem dicti excellentissimi principis consensientes, sigillum commissariatus nostri generalis præsentibus apposuimus, in fidem et testimonium omnium et singulorum præmissorum. Datum Eboraci quoad sigillationem præsentium decimo tertio die mensis Januarii anno Domini Millesimo quadragesimo septuagesimo octavo.

nobis presentatas et porrectas cum ea qua decuit reverentia nuper recepisse, sub eo qui sequitur tenore verborum:

Laurencius permissione divina Eboracensis archiepiscopus, Angliæ primas, et apostolicæ sedis legatus, dilectis in Christo filiis, magistris Roberto Bothe legum doctori nostræ metropoliticæ Eboracensis ecclesiæ decano, Willielmo Poteman archidiacono Clivelandiæ, Henrico Gillow subdecano, et Thomæ Barow canonico et prebendario præfatæ ecclesiæ nostræ metropoliticæ Eboracensis, salutem, gratiam et benedictionem. Cum illustris et præpotens princeps et dominus dominus Ricardus dux Gloucestriæ, dominus de Medylham, et patronus ecclesiæ de Medylham prædicta, intendat ad laudem Dei et augmentum cultus divini ecclesiam prædictam ampliare et eam majoribus redditibus et possessionibus dotare ac numerum ministrorum in eadem augere, si per nos vel auctoritate nostra cum consensu omnium quorum interest dicta ecclesia fuerit erecta in collegiatam, prout per nuntium ejusdem nobis literatorie destinatum accepimus, vobis de quorum circumspectione et industria plene in Domino confidimus, communiter et divisim committimus et mandamus, quatinus vocatis archidiacono Richmondiæ seu ejus procuratore aliisque interesse cognitum habentibus in specie et omnibus aliis in genere ad dictam ecclesiam de Medylham seu alium locum honestum et insignem per vos seu aliquem vestrum deputandum, ad certum diem per vos vel vestrum aliquem statuendum, dictam ecclesiam parochialem ad petitionem et rogatum dicti domini ducis in collegiatam erigatis ac ipsam pro collegiata habendam et reputandam decernatis. Ac etiam inquisitione debita de fructibus, redditibus et proventibus ejusdem certum numerum capellanorum et aliorum ministrorum prout facultates ejusdem suppetere ad hoc possunt in eadem ordinetis. De regimineque dictorum capellanorum ac ministrorum et cura parochianorum ac indempnitate nostra, dominorum decani et capituli ecclesiæ nostræ Eboracensis prædictæ, et dicti archidiaconi Richmondiæ aliorumque interesse habentium, provideatis prout vobis melius videbitur expedire, juxta sacrorum canonum ac constitutionum legalium et provincialium nostræ provinciæ instituta. Ceteraque omnia

alia et singula faciendi, exercendi et expediendi quæ in præmissis et circa ea necessaria fuerint seu quomodolibet opportuna, vobis communiter et divisim committimus vices nostras et plenam in Domino potestatem per præsentes. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum præsentibus apponi fecimus. Datum in manerio nostro de Suthwell sexto die mensis Augusti anno Domini Millesimo quadringentesimo septuagesimo octavo et nostræ translationis anno secundo.

Post quarum quidem literarum reverendissimarum præsentationem, porrectionem et receptionem dicto venerabili viro magistro Henrico Gillow et nobis ac per ipsum et nos ut præmittitur factam, sæpedictus magister Henricus et nos fuimus ex parte et per partem ejusdem excellentissimi principis domini et patroni antedicti debita cum instantia requisiti et rogati, quatenus onus commissionis dicti reverendissimi patris in nos assumere ac juxta et secundum traditam nobis in eadem formam procedere et decernere dignaremur; præfatus vero venerabilis vir magister Henricus Gillow et nos requisitionem et rogatum dicti serenissimi principis ad laudem et honorem Dei omnipotentis præexcelsæque Virginis Mariæ genetricis ejusdem ac omnium sanctorum, et divini cultus continuum incrementum, tendere manifeste intelligentes, onus dictæ commissionis in nos assumentes, ac juxta et secundum formam et effectum ejusdem commissionis procedere et decernere cupientes, venerabilem virum magistrum Johannem Shirwod sacræ theologiæ professorem archidiaconum Richmondiæ in dicta ecclesia metropolitica Eboracensi et dominum Willielmum Beverley rectorem ecclesiæ de Medylham prædictæ in speciali, ac omnes alios et singulos interesse in causa sive negotio erectionis ecclesiæ prædictæ in collegiatam habere prætendentes in generali, quatinus comparerent coram præfato venerabili viro magistro Henrico Gillow et nobis prænominato Thoma Barow seu altero nostrum in ecclesia de Medylham prædicta vicesimo nono die mensis Januarii ultimo præterito, causam rationabilem si quam habuerint aut dicere sciverint, habuitve vel dicere sciverit ipsorum aliquis, quare dictam ecclesiam parochialem de Medylham ad requisitionem et rogatum dicti excellentissimi principis et domini ac patroni antedicti in collegiatam erigere, ac ipsam pro collegiata habendam, reputandam, appellandam, et nominandam decernere, ulteriusque facere et expedire quæ in hac parte necessaria fuerint seu quomodolibet opportuna, juxta et secundum formam in dicti reverendissimi patris commissionis literis traditam minime deberemus, seu alter nostrum minime deberet, in debita

juris forma conversuri et allegaturi ; necnon quatuordecim viros fidedignos tam clericos quam laicos dicti archiadiaconatus Richmondiæ de valore reddituum, fructuum et proventuum ejusdem ecclesiæ de Medylham meliorem notitiam habentes, quod consimili modo coram præfato venerabili viro magistro Henrico Gillow et nobis seu altero nostrum dicto die et loco comparerent, inquisitionem debitam de fructibus, redditibus et proventibus hujusmodi subituri, ulteriusque dicturi, facturi et recepturi quod juri consonum fuerit in hac parte et rationi, sub certa juris forma peremptorie citari et vocari ; sæpedictus magister Henricus Gillow et nos præfatus Thomas Barow in matri ecclesia Eboracensi loco consistoriali ejusdem quintodecimo die mensis Januarii antedicto pro tribunali publice sedentes effectualiter decreverimus justicia mediante, denunciatione secundum statuta et laudabiles consuetudines ecclesiæ metropoliticæ Eboracensis antedictæ in hac parte requisita venerabilibus viris et dominis decano et capitulo ejusdem ecclesiæ debite facta. Ipsoque vicesimo nono die dictæ mensis Januarii adveniente, certificatorio de et super citationem seu vocationem hujusmodi modoque et forma eorumdem facto et concepto, sigillo reverendi viri nostri domini archidiaconi Richmondiæ in ecclesia cathedrali Eboracensi commissarii generalis in cera coloris viridis pendente communito, per honestum virum dominum Thomam Cornthwate capellanum parochialem dictæ ecclesiæ de Medylham mandatarium et nuntium sufficientem et legitime in hac parte deputatum coram nobis Thoma Barow, dicto venerabili viro magistro Henrico Gillow ex causis licitis absente, in ecclesia de Medylham prædicta pro tribunali publice sedentibus judicialiter exhibito ; quo de mandato nostro publice alta et intelligibili voce perlecto, prælibatisque venerabili viro magistro Johanne Shirwod archidiacono Richmondiæ antedicto et domino Willielmo Beverley rectore prænominato in speciali legitime citatis et vocatis de mandato nostro publice præconizato, tandemque venerabili viro Johanne Kendall armigero, vice et nomine dicti venerabilis viri magistri Johannis Shirwod archidiaconi antedicti et pro eodem, necnon dicto domino Willielmo Beverley personaliter coram nobis præfato Thoma Barow judice et commissario antedicto judicialiter comparentibus, ac prælibato venerabili viro Johanne Kendalle consensum venerabilis viri magistri Thomæ Pereson decretorum doctoris, dicti magistri Johannis Shirwod archidiaconi antedicti in remotis agentis vicarii in specialibus generalis, ad erectionem dictæ ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham in collegiatam, vice et nomine dicti magistri Johannis Shirwod et pro eo in

scriptis redactum, sigillo vicariatus generalis ejusdem in cera rubei coloris pendente communitum, ostendente in hæc verba—

Universis et singulis Christi fidelibus præsentes literas inspecturis Thomas Pereson decretorum doctor, reverendi viri et magistri Johannis Shirwod sacræ theologiæ professoris archidiaconi Richmondiæ in ecclesia cathedrali Eboracensi in remotis agentis vicarius in spiritualibus generalis sufficienter et legitime deputatus, salutem in Domino et fidem indubiam præsentibus adhibere. Cum inter cetera reparationis humanæ remedia missarum solempnia, in quibus pro salute vivorum et requie defunctorum altissimo Deo patri filius immolatur, fuerint præcipue merito judicanda et divinæ misericordiæ plurimum allectiva, dignum duximus ea quæ missarum celebria divinique cultis augmentum ac ministrorum Christi ampliationem in ecclesia militanti respiciunt pronis affectibus promovere; sane siquidem exhibita nobis nuper pro parte excellentissimi in Christo principis et domini domini Ricardi ducis Glocestriæ domini de Medylham archidiaconatus Richmondiæ Eboracensis diocesis ac ecclesiæ parochialis in eadem veri patroni petitio continebat, quod ipse excellentissimus princeps et dominus, ad laudem Dei omnipotentis præexcelsæque ejusdem genetricis Mariæ ac omnium sanctorum, et divini cultus continuum incrementum, eandem ecclesiam parochialem de Medylham ampliare et eam majoribus redditibus et possessionibus dotare, numerum quoque capellanorum in eadem Deo devote famulantium augere proposuit et intendit, si per reverendissimum in Christo patrem et dominum dominum Laurencium permissione divina Eboracensem archiepiscopum Angliæ primatem et apostolicæ sedis legatum aut ejus per auctoritatem cum consensu venerabilium virorum decani et capituli dictæ ecclesiæ cathedralis Eboracensis præfatique reverendi viri magistri Johannis Shirwod archidiaconi Richmondiæ antedicti, cujus vices gerimus in præsenti, necnon domini Willielmi Beverley capellani rectoris ejusdem ecclesiæ de Medylham, ac omnium et singulorum quorum interest, dicta ecclesia in collegiatam erecta fuerit. Quare a nobis ex parte ejusdem excellentissimi principis fuit humiliter supplicatum, quatenus nos erectioni ejusdem ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham auctoritate dicti reverendissimi patris faciendæ in collegiatam, vice et nomine dicti reverendi viri magistri Johannis Shirwod archidiaconi Richmondiæ, cujus vices ipso in remotis agente ut præmittitur gerimus, consentire dignaremur. Nos autem attendentes propositum dicti excellentissimi

principis fore laudabile, meritorium, atque pium, quodque in divini cultus augmentum tendere manifeste dinoscitur, volentes illud piis affectibus confovere, dictæ ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham erectioni in collegiatam auctoritate dicti reverendissimi patris faciendæ, vice et nomine dicti reverendi viri magistri Johannis Shirwod archidiaconi Richmondiæ antedicti et pro eo expresse consentimus ac consensum nostrum pariter et assensum præbemus per præsentes; reservatis dicto reverendo viro magistro Johanni Shirwod archidiacono Richmondiæ antedicto et ejus successoribus sex solidis et octo denariis in et de fructibus et proventibus ejusdem ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham postquam in collegiatam erecta fuerit, annuatim ad festa Michaelis et Paschæ equis portionibus imperpetuum pro indempnitate archidiaconi Richmondiæ pro tempore existentis persolvendis. Quæ omnia et singula vestræ universitati innotescimus per præsentes. In quorum omnium et singulorum fidem atque testimonium præmissorum sigillum vicariatus generalis antedicti præsentibus est appensum. Datum Eboraci vicesimo die mensis Januarii anno Domini Millesimo quadringentesimo septuagesimo octavo.

Dictoque domino Willielmo Beverley consensum ejusdem in scriptis sub sigillo venerabilis viri reverendi viri domini officialis curiæ Eboracensis commissarii generalis realiter exhibente, sub eo tenore qui sequitur—

Universis et singulis Christi fidelibus præsentes literas inspecturis Willielmus Beverley capellanus, Rector ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham archidiaconatus Richmondiæ Eboracensis diocesis, salutem in Domino et fidem indubiam præsentibus adhibere. Cum inter cetera reparationis humanæ remedia missarum solempnia in quibus pro salute vivorum et requie defunctorum altissimo Deo patri filius immolatur, fuerint præcipue merito judicanda et divini misericordiæ plurimum allectiva, dignum duximus ea quæ missarum celebria divinique cultus augmentum ac ministrorum Christi ampliationem in ecclesia militanti respiciunt pronis affectibus promovere; sane siquidem exhibita mihi nuper pro parte excellentissimi in Christo principis et domini domini Ricardi ducis Gloucestriæ domini de Medylham archidiaconatus Richmondiæ Eboracensis diocesis antedictæ ac ecclesiæ parochialis in eadem veri patroni, petitio continebat quod ipse excellentissimus princeps et dominus, ad laudem Dei omnipotentis præexcelsæque ejusdem genetricis Mariæ ac omnium sanctorum, et divini cultus continuum incrementum, eandem ecclesiam parochialem de Medylham ampliare et eam majoribus redditibus et possessionibus dotare, numerum

quoque ministrorum in eadem Deo devote familantium augere proposuit et intendit, si per reverendissimum in Christo patrem et dominum dominum Laurencium permissione divina Eboracensem archiepiscopum Angliæ primatem et apostolicæ sedis legatum aut ejus per auctoritatem cum consensu venerabilium virorum decani et capituli dictæ ecclesiæ cathedralis Eboracensis reverendique viri magistri Johannis Shirwod sacræ theologiæ professoris archidiaconi Richmondiæ in ecclesia cathedrali Eboracense, necnon mei Willielmi Beverley rectoris prænominati, ac omnium et singulorum quorum interest in hac parte, dicta ecclesia in collegiatam erecta fuerit. Quare a me pro parte ejusdem excellentissimi principis fuit humiliter supplicatum, quatenus erectioni ejusdem ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham auctoritate dicti reverendissimi patris faciendæ in collegiatam consentirem. Unde ego præfatus Willielmus Beverley, attendens propositum dicti excellentissimi principis fore laudabile, meritorium, atque pium, quodque in divini cultus augmentum tendere manifeste dinoscitur, volens id piis affectibus confovere, dictæ ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham erectioni in collegiatam auctoritate dicti reverendissimi patris faciendæ harum serie expresse consentio. Quæ omnia et singula universitati vestræ innotesco per præsentes. In quarum omnium præmissorum fidem atque testimonium, quia sigillum non habeo autenticum, ideo sigillum venerabilis viri reverendi viri domini officialis curiæ Eboracensis commissarii generalis præsentibus apponi procuravi. Et nos vero commissarius generalis antedictus, ad instantiam et rogatum dicti domini Willielmi Beverley rectoris antedicti, sigillum nostrum præsentibus apposuimus in fidem et testimonium omnium et singulorum præmissorum. Datum Eboraci vicesimo die mensis Januarii anno Domini Millesimo quadringentesimo septuagesimo octavo.

Statim tunc ibidem coram nobis in judicio venerabilis vir Thomas Asper generosus personaliter comparens literas venerabilium virorum domini decani et capituli ecclesiæ metropoliticæ Eboracensis antedictæ, consensum eorundem ad erectionem dictæ ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham in collegiatam, auctoritate pontificali dicti reverendissimi patris faciendam, in se continentes, sub eorum sigillo communi in cera glauci coloris pendente, realiter nobis tradidit in hæc verba—

Universis Sanctæ Matris Ecclesiæ filiis præsentes literas inspecturis Robertus decanus et capitulum ecclesiæ Cathedralis beati Petri Eboracensis salutem in omnium Salvatore. Noverit universitas vestra quod nos decanus et

capitulum antedicti, visis et perlectis quibusdam literis reverendissimi in Christi patris et domini domini Laurencii permissione divina Eboracensis archiepiscopi Angliæ primatis et apostolicæ sedis legati, venerabilibis viris magistris Roberto Bothe legum doctori ecclesiæ cathedralis prædictæ decano, Willielmo Poteman archidiacono Clivelandiæ, Henrico Gillow subdecano, et Thomæ Barow canonico et prebendario dictæ ecclesiæ cathedralis Eboracensis, commissariis ipsius reverendissimi patris cum illa clausula communiter et divisim ad tractandum nobiscum de et super negotio et causa erectionis ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham in collegiatam ecclesiam, auctoritate dicti reverendissimi patris faciendæ, sub certa verborum forma confectis, nobis ac dictis magistris Henrico Gillow subdecano et Thomæ Barow canonico commissariis antedictis, ceteris commissariis pertunc ex causis licitis absentibus, in domo nostra capitulari capitulariter congregatis, ex parte illustris et præpotentis domini domini Ricardi ducis Gloucestriæ domini de Medylham ac ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham prædictæ veri et indubitati patroni, qui ad Dei laudem et divini cultus augmentum prædictam ecclesiam de Medylham, si in collegiatam ecclesiam fuerit canonice erecta, ampliare et eam majoribus redditibus et possessionibus dotare ac numerum ministrorum in eadem augere intendit ut asseritur, præsentatis et exhibitis, convocationem confratrum et concanonicorum nostrorum ecclesiæ nostræ cathedralis prædictæ absentium, ad vicesimum primum diem instantis mensis Januarii decrevimus fore faciendam. Quo die advenientibus vocatis ad hunc diem, et legitime citatis dictis confratribus et concanonicis nostris secundum morem ecclesiæ nostræ Eboracensis prædictæ ad hostium exterius domus nostræ capitularis, ipsisque diutius expectatis et nullo modo comparentibus, continuationem per nos quoad actum hujusmodi pronunciatam decrevimus in negotio hujusmodi unacum dictis commissariis de justicia fore procedendum, eorum absentia in aliquo non obstanti. Unde nos decanus et capitulum supradicti in domo nostra capitulari prædicta, terminis ad hoc ut præfertur assignatis, de et super contentis in dictis literis præfati reverendissimi patris hujusmodi negotium erectionis dictæ ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham in collegiatam concernentibus, unacum commissariis prædictis tractatum habuimus diligentem et solempnem ; necnon ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham antedictæ in collegiatam erectioni auctoritate pontificali præfati reverendissimi patris pure simpliciter et libere faciendæ, salva tum nobis et nostris successoribus annua pensione trium solidorum et quatuor denariorum pro indempnitate

nostra ratione hujusmodi erectionis per nos de consensu dicti reverendissimi patris taxata et imposita, nostrum præbuimus et præbemus consensum tenore præsentium pariter et assensum. Quæ omnia et singula universitati vestræ predictæ tenore præsentium intimamus, quibus sigillum nostrum apponi fecimus in fidem et testimonium omnium præmissorum. Datum in domo nostra capitulari vicesimo quarto die mensis Januarii anno Domini Millesimo quadringentesimo septuagesimo octavo.

Ceteris vero omnibus et singulis interesse in causa et negotio erectionis hujusmodi habere prætendentibus in genere legitime citatis et vocatis, publice preconizatis, diutius expectatis, et nullo modo comparentibus, per nos contumacibus merito reputatis, ac ad petitionem dicti excellentissimi principis domini et patroni antedicti procedendum fore ad erectionem dictæ ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham in collegiatam quatenus de jure fuerit procedendum in contumacias eorundem per nos judicialiter decreto, ac quatuordecim viris fidedignis tam clericis quam laicis dicti archidiaconatus Richmondiæ de valore reddituum, fructuum et proventuum dictæ ecclesiæ de Medylham ac jure patronatus ejusdem meliorem notitiam habentibus, videlicet, dominis Roberto Walker, Johanne Bedalle, Willielmo Clerk, et Willielmo Lowther capellanis, Thoma Ottour, Johanne Mowbray, Johanne Beverley, Willielmo Nanson, Willielmo Foster, Johanne Foster, Johanne Hudson, Waltero Bond, Thoma Glover, et Willielmo Tesedale laicis, in hac parte legitime citatis et vocatis, de mandato nostro preconizatis, judicialiter comparentibus, quibus per nos præfatum Thomam Barow admissis et in forma juris juratis, ac super valore reddituum, fructuum et proventuum dictæ ecclesiæ de Medylham et jure patronatus ejusdem ac certis articulis ea concernentibus rite et legitime examinatis, ipsorumque dictis, assertionibus et depositionibus in scriptis de mandato nostro redactis, decretum erectionis dictæ ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham in collegiatam auctoritate pontificali dicti reverendissimi patris nos præfatus Thomas Barow judex et commissarius antedictus pro tribunali publice sedentes, Deum præ oculis habentes, legimus sub forma verborum quæ sequitur—

In Dei nomine Amen. Auditis, discussis, et plenius intellectis per nos Thomam Barow canonicum et prebendarium ecclesiæ metropoliticæ Eboracensis, per reverendissimum in Christo patrem et dominum dominum Laurencium permissione divina Eboracensis archiepiscopum Angliæ primatem

et apostolicæ sedis legatum, unacum venerabilibus viris magistris Roberto Bothe legum doctore ejusdem metropoliticæ Eboracensis ecclesiæ decano, Willielmo Poteman archidiacono Clivelandiæ, et Henrico Gillow ejusdem ecclesiæ subdecano, ad infrascripta cum clausula communiter et divisim judicem et commissarium sufficienter et legitime deputatum, meritis et circumstantiis causæ sive negotii erectionis ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham archidiaconatus Richmondiæ Eboracensis diocesis in collegiatam, denunciatione secundum statuta et laudabiles consuetudines ecclesiæ metropoliticæ Eboracensis antedictæ requisita venerabilibus viris domino decano et capitulo ejusdem ecclesiæ in hac parte debite facta, vocatis citatis et legitime præmunitis magistro Johanne Shirwod sacræ theologiæ professore archidiacono Richmondiæ in ecclesia Eboracensis antedicta ac honesto viro domino Willielmo Beverley rectore ejusdem ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham moderno in speciali, omnibusque aliis de jure vocandis, citandis vel premuniendis in generali, nulloque in hac parte congruente causam rationabilem quare dicta ecclesia parochialis de Medylham in collegiatam ad petitionem excellentissimi in Christo principis et domini domini Ricardi ducis Glocestriæ domini de Medylham veri ejusdem ecclesiæ patroni, auctoritate dicti reverendissimi patris, erigi non debeat in collegiatam proponente, dicente, aut allegante, ac plena causæ cognitione habita, decreto insuper interposito, et aliis * . . . . . subsequentibus quæ in erectionibus ecclesiarum parochialium in collegiatas juxta juris exigentiam et qualitatem negotii exiguntur, jurisque ordine in omnibus observato, de consilio jurisperitorum cum quibus communicavimus in hac parte ad erectionem ejusdem ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham in collegiatam, auctoritate, consensu et voluntate dicti reverendissimi patris præfatique archidiaconi ac decani et capituli necnon domini Willielmi Beverley rectoris antedicti, ceterorum vocatorum citatorum et premunitorum non comparentium hujusmodi in contumacione, ad petitionem dicti excellentissimi principis, invocata Spiritus Sancti gratia, procedimus in hunc modum—

In nomine Domini Amen. Quia per diligentem inquisitionem coram nobis et per nos factam et captam, ac evidentes probationes, actaque et inactitata et coram nobis Thoma Barow judice et commissario antedicti pro tribunali sedentibus judicialiter exhibita et probata, excellentissimum in Christo

* Obliterated in the original.

principem et dominum dominum Ricardum ducem Gloucestriæ dominum de Medylham dictæ ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham verum fore patronum, ipsiusque serenissimi principis propositum in hac parte laudabile, pium atque meritorium fuisse et esse, necnon fructus, redditus et proventus dictæ ecclesiæ parochialis de Medylham viginti una libris novem solidis et quatuor denariis sterlingorum annuatim valere et ad eandem summam singulis in annis communiter se extendere invenimus et reperimus; idcirco nos de consensu expresso venerabilium virorum domini decani et capituli dictæ ecclesiæ metropoliticæ Eboracensis reverendique viri magistri Johannis Shirwod sacræ theologiæ professoris archidiaconi Richmondiæ in eadem ecclesia Eboracense, ac honesti viri domini Willielmi Beverley rectoris moderni ejusdem ecclesiæ de Medylham, ac omnium aliorum et singulorum interesse in hac parte habentium, dictam ecclesiam parochialem de Medylham, ad petitionem et rogatum dicti excellentissimi principis et domini domini Ricardi ducis Gloucestriæ et patroni antedicti, in collegiatam auctoritate nobis in hac parte commissa erigimus et creamus, ac ipsam pro collegiata habendam, nominandam, appellandam, et reputandam, necnon Decanum curam animarum ejusdem ecclesiæ cum et de fructibus, redditibus et proventibus et emolumentis de et in eadem ecclesia provenientibus per se vel alium sufficientem et idoneum deputatum juxta et secundum ordinationem dictæ ecclesiæ in hac parte legitime faciendam supportantem et gerentem, ac sex Capellanos, quatuor Clericos, sex Choristas et unum Clericum divina servicia et officia in eadem ecclesia ministraturos, facturos et celebraturos ac imperpetuum deservituros, per dictum prepotentem dominum dominum Ricardum ducem Gloucestriæ dictæ ecclesiæ collegiatæ fundatorem ac heredes ejusdem juxta tenorem licenciæ regiæ eidem domino duci in hac parte concessæ imponendos, temporibus futuris perpetuis fore et esse ordinamus, limitamus, statuimus et decernimus judicialiter in hiis scriptis; reservantes nobis facultatem numerum capellanorum et aliorum ministrorum Deo devote in ecclesia prædicta famulantium et famulare debentium augendi et diminuendi, ac omnia alia et singula in hac parte necessaria et de jure requisita juxta et secundum qualitatem dotis dictæ ecclesiæ nunc assignatæ et assignandæ in futurum faciendi, ordinandi, limitandi et exercendi pro loco et tempore opportunis. In recompensationem vero lesionis et indempnitatem præfati reverendissimi patris et successorum suorum Eboracensium archiepiscoporum ecclesiæque metropoliticæ Eboracensis ac domini decani et capituli ejusdem ecclesiæ, vel ejusdem

capituli decano in remotis agente, ac præfati archidiaconi et ejus successorum quorumcunque, ac in signum subjectionis dictæ ecclesiæ collegiatæ quæ amplius non vacabit, annuum censum sive pensionem annuam quatuor solidorum sterlingorum præfato reverendissimo patri et ejus successoribus archiepiscopis Eboracensibus pro tempore existentibus, ac trium solidorum et quatuor denariorum eisdem domino decano et capitulo ac eidem capitulo decano in remotis agente, necnon sex solidorum et octo denariorum domino archidiacono Richmondiæ ac ejus successoribus, de et in fructibus, redditibus et proventibus dictæ ecclesiæ collegiatæ pertinentibus, ad duos anni terminos, videlicet, ad festa sancti Michaelis archangeli et Paschæ, per decanum dictæ ecclesiæ collegiatæ qui pro tempore fuerit fideliter persolvendum imperpetuum assignamus et limitamus, ipsasque annuas pensiones sive annuos census dictæ ecclesiæ collegiatæ cum consensu et assensu prædicti præpotentis domini fundatoris ejusdem ac aliorum quorum in hac parte interest vel interesse poterit judicamus et imposuimus in hiis scriptis ac futuris temporibus per decanum dictæ ecclesiæ collegiatæ pro tempore existentem sub pena sequestrationis *fructuum*, reddituum, et proventuum dictæ ecclesiæ collegiatæ quorumcunque in forma prædicta fideliter persolvendas fore decernimus judicialiter in hiis scriptis.

Acta fuerunt hæc prout supra successive scribuntur et recitantur sub anno ab Incarnacione Domini secundum cursum et computationem ecclesiæ Anglicanæ Millesimo quadringentesimo septuagesimo octavo, indictione duodecima, pontificatus sanctissimi in Christo patris et domini nostri domini Sexti divina providentia papæ quarti anno octavo, mense diebus et locis superius descriptis. Quæ omnia et singula vestræ universitati prædictæ harum literarium sive hujus instrumenti publici serie innotescimus. In quorum omnium testimonium atque fidem præsentes literas sive præsens publicum instrumentum exinde fieri fecimus, signisque et nominibus magistrorum Johannis Haryngton, venerabilis curiæ Eboracensis registrarii, et Willielmi Biller, ejusdem curiæ Eboracensis procuratoris generalis, notariorum publicorum scribarum, primo per dictum venerabilem virum magistrum Henricum Gillow et nos conjunctim, deinde absente dicto magistro Henrico per nos in hac parte specialiter assumptorum, subscribi et publicari mandavimus, sigillique venerabilis viri reverendi viri domini officialis curiæ Eboracensis commissarii generalis, quia sigillum non habemus autenticum, appensione communiri procuravimus. Et nos vero commissarius generalis antedictus, ad instantiam

et procurationem dicti venerabilis viri magistri Thomæ Barow judicis et commissarii antedicti, præsentibus literis sive præsenti publico instrumento sigillum nostrum apposuimus. Datum Eboraci quoad appositionem sigilli nostri prædicti sexto die mensis Februarii anno Domini, indictione, et pontificatu prædictis.

Et ego Johannes Haryngton, clericus Eboracensis diocesis, publicus auctoritatibus apostolica et imperiali notarius, venerabilisque curiæ Eboracensis registrarius, ac in causa sive negotio erectionis hujusmodi unacum præfato magistro Willielmo Biller, primo per dictos venerabiles viros magistros Henricum Gillow et Thomam Barow conjunctim, deinde dicto magistro Henrico absente per prænominatum magistrum Thomam, scriba specialiter assumptus, quia dictæ procurationi, mandati exhibitioni, ac præfati reverendissimi patris literarum porrectioni onerisque earundem assumptioni, ac prælibatæ citationi sive vocationi, decreto et certificatorio ejusdem, necnon literarum omnium superius descriptarum exhibitioni in ordine factæ ac præconizationi, decreto et dictorum quatuordecim virorum juramentis et examinationi, præfatique decreti lecturæ, ceterisque omnibus et singulis superius actis, gestis, dictis et factis, dum sic ut præmittitur sub anno Domini, indictione, pontificatu, mensibus, diebus et locis prædictis agebantur, dicebantur et fiebant, una cum prænominato magistro Willielmo, altero scribarum in hac parte assumpto, præsens personaliter interfui, eaque omnia et singula sic fieri vidi et audivi; ideo præsentes literas sive præsens publicum instrumentum, manu aliena de præcepto dicti magistri Thomæ ex voluntate et consensu mei et dicti magistri Willielmi aliunde occupatorum scriptas sive scriptum, subscripsi, publicavi, et in hanc publicam formam redegi, meisque signo ac nomine solitis et consuetis una cum signo et nomine ac subscriptione dicti magistri Willielmi, et domini officialis curiæ Eboracensis commissarii generalis sigilli appensione, de mandato dicti magistri Thome signavi, rogatus et requisitus, in fidem omnium et singulorum præmissorum.

Et ego Willielmus Biller, clericus Eboracensis diocesis, publicus auctoritate apostolica notarius, venerabilisque curiæ Eboracensis procurator generalis, ac in causa sive negotio erectionis hujusmodi una cum præfato magistro Johanne Haryngton, primo per dictos venerabiles viros ma-

gistros Henricum Gillowe et Thomam Barow conjunctim, deinde dicto magistro Henrico absente per prenominatum magistrum Thomam, scriba specialiter assumptus, quia dictæ procurationi, mandati exhibitioni, ac præfati reverendissimi patris literarum porrectioni onerisque earumdem assumptioni, ac prælibatæ citationi sive vocationi, decreto et certificatorio [ejusdem, necnon] literarum omnium superius descriptarum exhibitioni in ordine factæ ac præconisationi, decreto et dictorum quatuordecim virorum juramentis et examinationi, præfatique decreti lecturæ, ceterisque omnibus et singulis superius actis, gestis, dictis et factis, dum sic ut præmittitur sub anno Domini, indictione, pontificatu, mensibus, diebus et locis prædictis agebantur, dicebantur et fiebant, una cum prænominato Johanne altero scribarum in hac parte assumpto, præsens personaliter interfui, eaque omnia et singula sic fieri vidi et audivi, ideo præsentes literas sive præsens publicum instrumentum, manu aliena de præcepto dicti magistri Thomæ ex voluntate et consensu mei et dicti magistri Johannis aliunde occupatorum scriptas sive scriptum, subscripsi, publicavi, et in hanc publicam formam redegi, meisque signo et nomine solitis et consuetis, una cum signo et nomine ac subscriptione dicti magistri Johannis, et domini officialis curiæ Eboracensis commissarii generalis sigilli appensione, de mandato dicti magistri Thomæ signavi, rogatus et requisitus, in fidem omnium et singulorum præmissorum.

Nos itaque Robertus decanus et capitulum ecclesiæ metropoliticæ beati Petri Eboracensis capitulariter congregati omnia et singula in superscriptis literis contenta, habito super hiis in capitulo nostro tractatu solempni et diligente qui in hoc casu requiritur, approbamus, ratificamus, et quantum ad nos attinet pro nobis et successoribus nostris tenore præsentium confirmamus. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum commune præsentibus est appensum. Datum Eboraci in domo nostra capitulari quinto die mensis Decembris anno Domini Millessimo quadringentesimo septuagesimo nono.

Nos insuper Thomas Pereson decretorum doctor, reverendi viri magistri Johannis Shirwod sacræ theologiæ professoris archidiaconi Richmondiæ in ecclesia cathedrali Eboracensi in remotis agentis vicarius in spiritualibus generalis, dictam erectionem ratam, gratam, firmam pariter et acceptam habentes, ipsam ac omnia et singula in eadem contenta et

specificata, ac totum processum inde secutum ratificamus et approbamus, ac pro dicto domino archidiacono et successoribus suis quantum est in nobis tenore præsentium confirmamus. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum præsentibus est appensum. Datum Eboraci quinto die mensis Decembris anno Domini Millesimo quadringentesimo septuagesimo nono.

Nos vero Laurencius permissione divina Eboracensis archiepiscopus, Angliæ primas, et apostolicæ sedis legatus, erectionem prædictam ratam, gratam, firmam pariter et acceptam habentes, ipsam ac omnia et singula in eadem contenta et specificata, totumque processum in hac parte habitum et factum ratificamus et approbamus, ac nostro metropolitico jure tenore præsentium confirmamus, omnesque et singulos defectus si qui in eisdem fuerint ex nostra certa scientia graciose supplentes; ad contemplationem insuper excellentissimi principis Ricardi ducis Gloucestriæ antedicti, decano, capellanis, clericis et ministris quibuscumque dictæ ecclesiæ collegiatæ de Medilham pro tempore existentibus, et matutinas horas, missas, et vesperas ac alia quæcumque officia divina in præfata ecclesia collegiata et locis eidem contiguis et annexatis ac ab eadem dependentibus omnibus et singulis secundum usum, regimen, ordinationem et consuetudinem ecclesiæ cathedralis Sarum imperpetuum dicere, celebrare et cantare, eisdemque usu, regimine, ordinatione et consuetudine imperpetuum uti, ac citra et præter hujusmodi usum, regimen, ordinationem et consuetudinem in illis sanctorum festis quibus idem excellentissimus princeps majorem dinoscitur habere devotionem, quæ secundum ecclesiæ cathedralis Sarum prædictum usum simplicia et sine regimine chori observari deberent, etiam duplicia et cum regimine chori, juxta ordinationem ejusdem excellentissimi principis inde faciendam, observare et tenere valeant et possint, plenam harum serie potestatem et licentiam in quantum possumus damus, concedimus et impertimur, dictæ ecclesiæ nostræ cathedralis Eboracensis statutis, consuetudinibus et ordinationibus quibuscumque non obstantibus. In quorum omnium et singulorum testimonium atque fidem sigillum nostrum præsentibus apponi fecimus. Datum in manerio nostro de Scroby duodecimo die mensis Decembris anno Domini Millessimo quadringentesimo septuagesimo nono et nostræ translationis anno quarto.

In dorso,—Exhibita et registrata in visitatione regia per me Edoardum Planknay. E. P.

27° Octobris, 1547.

APPENDIX (E).

Charter of Exemption from Episcopal Jurisdiction.

(Introduction, p. 10.)

Universis Sanctæ Matris Ecclesiæ filiis ad quos præsentes literæ pervenerint, seu quos infrascripta tangunt seu tangere poterunt quomodolibet in futurum, Thomas miseratione divina Eboracensis archiepiscopus, Angliæ primas, salutem et fidem indubiam præsentibus adhibere. Ad vestræ universitatis notitiam deducimus et deduci volumus per præsentes quod cum parochialis ecclesia loci de Middelham nostræ Eboracensis diocesis, sita infra limites archidiaconatus Richemondiæ in nostra cathedrali ecclesia Eboracensi, quæ de prænobilis et præpotentis principis Ricardi ducis Gloucestriæ, illustrissimi in Christo principis et domini domini Edwardi Dei gratia Angliæ et Franciæ regnorum regis fratris germani illustris, jure patronatus extiterat, opera, devotione, solicitudine, et pietate ejusdem ducis in collegiatam ecclesiam cum certo ecclesiasticorum ministrorum numero ibidem Altissimo famulantium ad omnipotentis Dei laudem pariter et honorem, beatissimæque Dei genetricis Mariæ et sanctæ Alkildæ virginis, auctoritate prædecessoris nostri nuper sit erecta, processusque quoque erectionis hujusmodi et illius forma, necnon statuta nonnulla plurimum laudabilia pro dictæ ecclesiæ collegiatæ illiusque ministrorum præsentium et futurorum continuo et prospero statu directione salubri plurimum laudabiliter atque honorifice, mediante prædicto duce, edita fuerint, apostolicæ sedis firmitate munita, roborata et stabilita, nos archiepiscopus antedictus tantam prædicti principis et ducis devotionem in præmissis ipsiusque devotum animum, tamque acceptabilem sinceramque voluntatem quos ipse dux, in aliorum Christianorum principum Christi fideliumque beatum exemplum, ad Altissimi laudem et suæ beatissimæ genetricis Mariæ et sanctæ Alkildæ predictæ honorificationem, præmissorum respectu gerere comprobatur, jugis considerationis oculo attendentes et laudantes, ecclesiasticorum ministrorum, parochianorum, inhabitantium et incolarum collegiatæ præfatæ ecclesiæ præsentium et futurorum quieti et paci, contemplatione Dei et dicti præpotentis principis et ducis serenissimi, salubriter providere cupientes, oblatæ nobis pro parte dicti principis et ducis illustrissimi petitioni favorabiliter annuentes, ut tam præsentes quam futuri

ecclesiæ collegiatæ prædictæ ecclesiastici ministri, parochiani, inhabitantes et incolæ eo quietius et devotius possint absque nostra vel successorum nostrorum ecclesiæ cathedralis Eboracensis archiepiscoporum auctoritate, nostrorum seu successorum nostrorum, aut aliorum quorumcumque nobis inferiorum judicum, quacumque notione, jurisdictione, potestate, præeminentia, seu dignitate fungentium, impetitione ac ordinaria et archiepiscopali et metropolitana visitatione, necnon cujuscumque ecclesiasticæ jurisdictionis exercitio per appellationem vel querelam etiam in eosdem ministros seu parochianos, incolas seu inhabitantes quomodolibet attemptando, Omnipotenti perpetuo famulari, prælibitam collegiatam ecclesiam ejusdemque ecclesiæ decanum pro tempore existentem omnesque et singulos illius ecclesiæ ministros et parochianos incolas et inhabitantes præsentes et futuros ab omni ordinaria etiam archiepiscopali et metropolitica, et alia quacumque ecclesiastica jurisdictione, notione et vocatione per appellationem vel querelam, visitatione, correctione et potestate nostris et archiepiscoporum Eboracensium ecclesiæ successorum nostrorum futurorum quorumcumque, quatenus ad nos attinet, nostra auctoritate archiepiscopali et metropolitica plene, totaliter et integre eximimus et tenore præsentium perpetuo liberamus, ipsosque in hac parte sufficienter exemptos et ab omni nostra correctione, superioritate, visitatione, potestate, jurisdictione, et cohercione quacumque totaliter liberatos et immunes fuisse et esse pro nobis et successoribus nostris quibuscumque futuris dictæ ecclesiæ Eboracensis archiepiscopis imperpetuum, ac de et cum consensu capituli nostri Eboracensis, per præsentes decernimus et declaramus; proviso semper quod nostra præsens immunitatis, exemptionis, et privilegii donatio et concessio, sive super hujusmodi immunitate, exemptione, et privilegiis donatis et concessis decretum et declaratio ad aliquos ministros vel alias personas dicti collegii qui nunc sunt vel in futurum erunt ad aliquod vel aliqua beneficium vel beneficia ecclesiasticum seu ecclesiastica infra nostram provinciam, diocesim, vel jurisdictionem, sive sint dignitates, personatus, preposituræ, plebaniæ,* prebendæ, rectoriæ, vicariæ, cantariæ perpetuæ, sive alia beneficia quæcumque majora vel minora quibuscumque nominibus appellentur electi, provisi, assumpti, instituti, vel quomodocumque aliter intitulati, sive in posterum eligendi, providendi, assumendi, instituendi seu quomodocumque aliter intitulandi, nullatenus extendantur, seu eis vel eorum alicui opitulentur vel suffragentur, quominus coram nobis et aliis ordinariis nobis quibuscum-

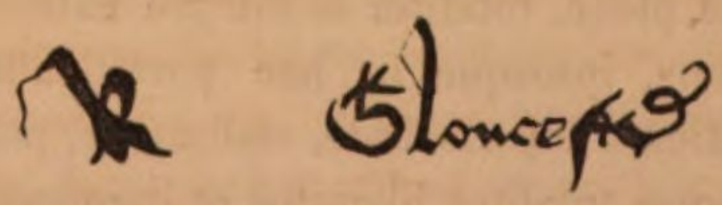
* Plebanus: qui sacramenta administrat in Ecclesia Cathedrali. Voss.

que inferioribus respondere, et nostris ac illorum correctionibus, punitionibus, decretis, injunctionibus, et mandatis in omnibus quæ eorum beneficia respiciunt seu respicere poterunt, perinde nobis ac illis modo et forma teneantur ac si supradicta immunitas, exemptio, seu privilegia donata seu concessa non fuissent. In quorum omnium et singulorum fidem, robur et testimonium, necnon ad perpetuam rei memoriam, hiis literis nostris præsentibus sigillum nostrum apponi fecimus. Datum in manerio nostro de Batyrsay vicesimo iiij^to^ die mensis Martii anno Domini secundum cursum et computationem ecclesiæ Anglicanæ Millessimo quadringentesimo octogesimo primo et nostræ translationis anno secundo.

APPENDIX (F).

GRANT OF RICHARD DUKE OF GLOUCESTER, 1479.

(Introduction, p. 11.)



OMNIBUS Christi fidelibus ad quos præsentes literæ pervenerint Ricardus dux Gloucestriæ, magnus camerarius, constabularius, et admirallus Angliæ, Johannes Huddelston miles, Jacobus Tirell miles, Willielmus Hopton armiger, Thomas Barow clericus, Thomas Middelton armiger, Willielmus Tunstall armiger, Ricardus Ratcliff armiger, Ricardus Middelton armiger, Galfridus Franke et Robertus Brakenbury, feoffati inter alia de castro, manerio et dominio de Middelham cum suis membris et pertinentiis, in comitatu Ebor', ad usum et proficuum dicti ducis, salutem in Domino sempiternam. Sciatis nos prefatum ducem ac nos præfatos Johannem Huddelston, Jacobum Tirell, Willielmum Hopton, Thomam Barow clericum, Thomam Middelton, Willielmum Tunstall, Ricardum Ratcliff, Ricardum Middelton, Galfridum Franke et Robertum Brakenbury, ad desiderium et speciale mandatum ejusdem ducis tradidisse, dimisisse, liberasse, ac per præsentes confirmasse Willielmo Beverley decano et capellanis collegii Ricardi ducis Gloucestriæ de Middelham in comitatu Ebor' unam acram prati, parcellum dominii de Middelham, jacentem inter Yore versus unum locum vocatum le Wheynell et communem viam subtus le Westparke de Middelham prædicta,

unacum advocatione ecclesiæ de Middleham prædicta, cum suis pertinentiis in comitatu prædicto, habendum et tenendum prædictam acram terre cum advocatione ecclesiæ prædictæ cum suis pertinentiis præfatis decano et capellanis collegii prædicti et eorum successoribus perpetue futuris temporibus duraturis de capitalibus dominis feodi illius per redditus et servicia inde debita, in puram et perpetuam elemosinam, secundum ordinationem et dispositionem nostri præfati ducis inter cetera statuta nostra collegii prædicti latius inde confecta et specificata. Et nos vero præfatus dux ac heredes nostri prædictam acram prati cum advocatione ecclesiæ prædictæ præfatis decano et capellanis et successoribus suis contra omnes gentes warrantizabimus et defendemus imperpetuum. Sciatis insuper nos præfatum ducem ac nos præfatos Johannem Huddelston, Jacobum Tirell, Willielmum Hopton, Thomam Barow, Thomam Middelton, Willielmum Tunstall, Ricardum Ratcliff, Ricardum Middelton, Galfridum Franke, et Robertum Brakenbury attornasse, constituisse, et loco nostro posuisse dilectos nobis in Christo Johannem Kendale, Thomam Otter, et Michaelem Warton nostros veros et legitimos attornatos conjunctim et divisim ad intrandum in prædictam acram prati, unacum advocatione ecclesiæ predictæ, et ad deliberandum vice et nominibus nostris præfatis decano et capellanis collegii prædicti plenam et pacificam seisinam et possessionem de et in prædicta acra prati, unacum advocatione ecclesiæ prædictæ, secundum vim, formam et effectum hujus præsentis cartæ nostræ, ratum et gratum habituri quicquid dicti attornati nostri fecerint aut aliquis eorum fecerit in præmissis. In cujus rei testimonium nos præfatus dux has literas nostras fieri fecimus patentes. Et nos feoffati prædicti sigilla nostra præsentibus apposuimus. Datum vicesimo die Decembris, anno regni regis Edwardi quarti post conquestum Angliæ decimo nono.

APPENDIX (G).

AGREEMENT RESPECTING TITHES, 1480.

(Introduction, p. 11.)

MIDDLEHAM.

THIS INDENTURE, made between the right high and mighty prince Richard duke of Gloucestre, great chamberlayne, constable, and admirall of

England and lord of Middleham, on the one party, and sir William Beverley, deane, and the chapleyns of the College of Richard duke of Gloucestre of Midelham, on that other party, witnesseth, that it is agreed, accordit, and covenanted betweene the said partyes in maner and forme following; that is to wit, that the sayd deane and chapleyns for them and their successours for ever been agreed, and by these present indentures granten and truely releasen to the said duke, his heires and successors, lords of Midleham, for ever and all their right, title and interest that they in anywise have of and in the tythes of hay from tyme to be made within the parks of Sonnescue and the West parke of Middleham and in the closes called the Parson's close, &c.; and also of and in all brynnyng-wood, thornes, breeres and brushell whereof they or the parsons of the church of Middleham afore this tyme have beene possessed or had right or title by force of any maner grant in this behalf before made. In recompence whereof the said duke for him and his heires lords of Midleham for ever is agreede and by these presente indentures granteth to the sayd deane and chapleyns and their successors for ever certaine summes of money under-written, that is to say, first, for the tyth of hay within the sayd parke of Sonnescue, vj^{s}. viij^{d}.; for the tyth of hay of the Parson's close, &c. and for the tyth of hay within the west parke of Midleham and within the severalls and closes of Hedepyle, &c. and for the sayd brennyng wood, &c. xx^{s}. The same summes and every of them yearly to be payd to the sayd deane and chapleyns and their successors for ever of the revenues of the lordship of Midleham by the hands of the receivers there for the tyme being, at tearmes there usuall by even portions. And also the sayd duke for him his heires and successors for ever lords of Midleham is agreede and by these presente indentures granteth to the sayd deane and chapleyns and their successors for ever, one buck yearly to be taken against the feast of the Assumption of our blessed Lady Virgin, within the West parke aforesaid; and a doe to be taken within the sayd parke yearly against the feast of Saint Alkeld, and to them by the keeper of the said parke from tyme to tyme to be deliverd, and likewise a bucke to be taken yearely within the parke of Sonnescue aforesaid, &c. And over the sayd duke for him his heires and successors lords of Mydleham is agreede and by thes presente indentures granteth to the sayd deane and chapleyns, and their successors for ever, sufficient pasture to

and for eight oxen and two horses yearly within the said West parke of Midleham. And that it shall be lawfull to the sayd deane and chapleyns and their successors by their servants to have free entree in dryving into the sayd parke the sayd oxen and horses or any of them at all times covenable and convenient. And the same deane and chapleyns and their successors for ever to have and enjoy all maner of tythes within the parks and closes afore expressed and every of them, except the tythes of hay, wood and breare afore excepted. In witnes whereof, to the one part of these indentures remayning with the sayd duke, the sayd deane and chapleyns have set their common seale; and to the other parte of these indentures remayning with the sayd deane and chapleyns the sayd duke have set his seale. Yeven the first day of October in the xxth yere of the raigne of kinge Edward the Fourth.

APPENDIX (H).

Charter of Exemption from Archidiaconal Jurisdiction.

(Introduction, p. 11.)

Universis Sanctæ Matris Ecclesiæ filiis ad quos præsentes literæ pervenerint, seu quos infra scripta tangunt vel tangere possunt quomodolibet in futurum, Johannes Sherwood sacræ theologiæ professor archidiaconus Richemundiæ in ecclesia cathedrali Eboracense prothonotarius, salutem, et fidem indubiam præsentibus adhibere. Noverit universitas vestra per præsentes quod cum parochialis ecclesia loci de Middleham Eboracensis diocesis, infra limites archidiaconatus nostri prædicti sita, quæ de excellentis in Christo principis et domini, domini Ricardi ducis Gloucestriæ, serenissimi in Christo principis Edwardi regis Angliæ fratris germani, jure patronatus fuerat, opera, devotione, solicitudine et pietate ejusdem ducis in ecclesiam collegiatam cum certo ecclesiasticorum ministrorum ibidem Deo famulantium numero ad omnipotentis Dei præexcelsæque illius genetricis Mariæ et sanctæ Alkildæ virginis laudem pariter et honorem, auctoritate bonæ memoriæ Laurentii tunc Eboracensis archiepiscopi, de nostro ac aliorum quorum intererat in hac parte consensu expresso sit erecta et firmitate munita,

roborata et stabilita, prout in literis desuper successive factis plenius continetur ; quodque nos Johannes archidiaconus auditus tantam dicti excellentis principis et ducis devotionem in præmissis laudabilem, piam et meritoriam fore, atque in divini cultus augmentum notorie tendere, jugisque considerationis oculo attendentes et laudantes, volentesque propterea ecclesiasticorum ministrorum, parochianorum, inhabitantium, et incolarum collegiatæ ecclesiæ prædictæ præsentium et futurorum quieti et paci, contemplatione Dei et dicti excellentis principis et ducis, salubriter providere, oblatæ nobis pro parte dicti principis et ducis petitioni favorabiliter annuentes, prædictam ecclesiam collegiatam ipsiusque modernum et pro tempore existentem decanum omnesque et singulos ejusdem ecclesiæ ministros, parochianos, inhabitantes, et incolas præsentes et futuros, ab omni archidiaconali, episcopali, ordinaria et alia quacunque ecclesiastica jurisdictione, præeminentia, dignitate, superioritate, notione etiam, vocatione, visitatione, inquisitione, correctione, punitione, cohercione et potestate meis et archidiaconorum Richemundiæ in dicta ecclesia cathedrali Eboracense successorum nostrorum quorumcunque, necnon vicariorum et commissariorum nostrorum in spiritualibus generalium, meorumque ac eorundem successorum officialium et omnium aliorum nobis inferiorum judicum, quacunque jurisdictione, potestate, præeminentia seu dignitate fungentium, quatenus ad nos vel successores nostros attinet, nostra archidiaconali episcopali et ordinaria auctoritate plene totaliter et integre eximimus et tenore præsentium perpetuo liberamus, ipsosque modernum et pro tempore existentem decanum ac ministros, parochianos, inhabitantes, et incolas omnes et singulos in hac parte sufficienter exemptos, et a nostra et successorum nostrorum jurisdictione, præeminentia, dignitate, superioritate, notione et vocatione, visitatione, inquisitione, correctione, punitione, cohercione, et potestate quacunque totaliter exemptos, liberatos et immunes fuisse et esse pro nobis et successoribus nostris quibuscunque in perpetuum concedimus, pronuntiamus et declaramus ; reservatis nobis et successoribus nostris quinque solidis sterlingorum in, de et super fructibus et proventibus dictæ ecclesiæ de Middleham ad Michaelis et Paschæ festa imperpetuum pro nostra et successorum nostrum pro tempore existentium indemnitate, nobis et successoribus prædictis vel eorum vicariis annuatim solvendis. Hanc autem nostram exemptionem, declarationem, et decretum ad ministros vel personas dicti collegii, seu parochianos, inhabitantes aut incolas prænominatos præsentes vel futuros quoad aliquod aliud vel alia

aliqua ecclesiastica beneficia infra jurisdictionem seu limites archidiaconatus prædicti sita, etiamsi dignitates, personatus, prepositurae, prebendæ, rectoriæ, vicariæ, cantariæ, liberæ capellæ, sive alia quæcunque beneficia quibuscunque nominibus appellata fuerint, quæ ipsos vel eorum aliquem pro tempore obtinere contigerit, et illa obtineant, ... volumus non extendi, ac eis vel alicui eorum quominus ministri, personæ, parochiani, inhabitantes vel incolæ præfati, ratione aliorum beneficiorum hujusmodi, coram nobis et successoribus ac vicariis prædictis et aliis judicibus ordinariis quibuscunque respondere ac . . . . . et illorum correctionibus respondentes, ac decretis pariter et mandatis quæ illorum alia beneficia respiciunt, sive respicere poterunt in futurum, perinde parere et obedire . . . . . debeant, ac si exemptio, declaratio et decretum hujusmodi nullatenus emanass . . . . . minime opitulari vel suffragari. In quorum omnium et singulorum fidem et testimonium præmissorum præsentes literas fieri et nostri sigilli jussimus appensione muniri. Datum Romæ in domo nostræ solitæ residentiæ sub anno Incarnationis Dominicæ Millesimo quadringentesimo octuagesimo secundo. Indictione secundum Romanam curiam quintadecima. Die vero decima mensis Aprilis. Pontificatus ejusdem sanctissimi in Christo patris et domini nostri domini Sisti divina providentia papæ quarti anno undecimo.

APPENDIX (I).

Bull of Pope Sixtus the Fourth, 1482.

(Introduction, p. 12.)

Universis Sanctæ Matris Ecclesiæ filiis ad quos præsentes literæ sive præsens publicum instrumentum pervenerint sive pervenerit, Willielmus permissione divina abbas monasterii beatæ Mariæ de Jourvalle Eboracensis diocesis, executor judex et commissarius sedis apostolicæ, unacum venerabilibus in Christo patribus beatæ Mariæ extra muros Eboraci et de Fontibus dictæ Eboracensis diocesis monasteriorum abbatibus, suis propriis nominibus non expressatis, cum clausula quatenus vos vel duo aut unus vestrum ad infrascriptas literas sanctissimi in Christo patris et domini nostri domini Sixti

divina providentia papæ quarti sufficienter et legitime deputatus, salutem in Domino et fidem indubiam præsentibus adhibere. Noverit universitas vestra quod nos quasdam commissionis sive delegationis literas sanctissimi in Christo patris et domini nostri domini Sixti divina providentia papæ quarti prædicti sanas et integras, ac omni vitio et suspicione sinistra carentes, sub filo cannabis more Romanæ curiæ bullatas, nobis per partem et ex parte excellentissimi in Christo principis et domini Ricardi ducis Gloucestriæ, serenissimi in Christo principis et domini Edwardi Dei gratia Angliæ regis illustrissimi germani, nuper præsentatas, cum ea qua decuit reverentia recepimus, hujusmodi verborum sub tenore—

Sixtus episcopus, servus servorum Dei, dilectis filiis beatæ Mariæ extra muros Eboraci et de Fontibus ac de Jouravalla Eboracensis diocesis monasteriorum abbatibus, salutem et apostolicam benedictionem. Ministerio sacri apostolatus disponente Domino præsidentes, ad ea nostræ solicitudinis partes studio interponimus efficacius per quæ personæ ecclesiasticæ quæcunque in via salutis eternæ valeant feliciter contineri; dudum siquidem ex certis causis parochialem ecclesiam de Middleham Eboracensis diocesis infra limites archidiaconatus Richmondiæ in ecclesia Eboracensi, quæ de jure patronatus dilecti filii nobilis viri Ricardi ducis Gloucestriæ carissimi in Christo filii nostri Edwardi Angliæ regis illustris germani erat, in collegiatam ecclesiam, cum certo ecclesiasticorum, clericorum et ministrorum ibidem Altissimo famulantium numero, auctoritate ordinaria erectam confirmavimus et approbavimus, prout in nostris desuper confectis literis plenius continetur, cum autem, sicut exhibita nobis nuper pro parte ducis memorati petitio continebat, expedire noscatur pro felici ipsius ecclesiæ statu et personarum ejusdem directione et norma vivendi, quod deinceps perpetuis futuris temporibus correctio punitioque delinquentiæ capellanorum, clericorum, choristarum, ministrorum, et aliarum personarum ecclesiæ prefatæ ad modernum et pro tempore existentem decanum ipsius ecclesiæ spectet, ita quod nullus alius de correctione punitioneque hujusmodi se intromittere possit, pro parte ducis prælibati nobis fuit humiliter supplicatum ut in præmissis opportuno providere de benignitate apostolica dignaremur. Nos igitur, hujusmodi supplicationibus inclinati, discretioni vestræ per apostolica scripta mandamus, quatenus vos vel duo aut unus vestrum, vocatis qui fuerint evocandi ac de consensu illorum quorum interest, quod deinceps perpetuis futuris temporibus correctio et punitio capellanorum, clericorum, choristarum, ministrorum, et singularum

personarum illius collegii hujusmodi pro tempore ut præmittitur delinquentium ad modernum et pro tempore existentem decanum ipsius ecclesiæ et nullum alium pertineant, ita quod nullus præter eundem decanum de correctione et punitione capellanorum, clericorum, choristarum, et ministrorum hujusmodi pro tempore delinquentium ut præfertur se quolibet modo intromittere presumat, auctoritate nostra statuere et ordinare curetis; . . . . statutum, decretum et ordinationem hujusmodi, per vos vigore præsentium fieri contigit ut præfertur exnunc initum decernimus, et nemo si secus super hiis a quodam quavis auctoritate vel ignorantia contigerit attemptare, non obstantibus quibuscumque felicis et bonæ memoriæ Octonis et Octoboni olim . . . auctoritate apostolicæ sedis legatorum, ac provincialibus et sinodalibus conciliis generalibus vel specialibus, constitutionibus et ordinationibus, statutis quoque et consuetudinibus dictæ ecclesiæ, juramento, confirmatione apostolica, vel quavis firmitate alia roboratis statutis, et consuetudinibus ceteris contrariis quibuscumque. Datum Romæ apud Sanctum Petrum, anno Incarnationis Dominicæ Millesimo quadringentesimo octuagesimo secundo, pontificatus nostri anno undecimo.

Ad quorum quidem commissionis sive delegationis literarum executionem nos Willielmus abbas, executor judex et commissarius antedictus, per partem excellentissimi principis Ricardi ducis cum instantia requisiti, anno Dominicæ Incarnationis, indictione, pontificatu, mense et die inferius descriptis, in ecclesia collegiata de Middelham dictæ Eboracensis diocesis, in præsentis commissionis sive delegationis literis superius descriptis nominati, pro tribunali publice sedentes, ac in negotio in eisdem commissionis sive delegationis literis contento cognoscentes et legitime procedentes, vocatis, citatis et legitime præmunitis reverendissimo in Christo patre et domino domino Thoma permissione divina Eboracensi archiepiscopo Angliæ primate et apostolicæ sedis legato, venerabilibus viris Roberto decano et capitulo ecclesiæ cathedralis Eboracensis, necnon reverendo viro magistro Johanne Shirwood sacræ theologiæ professore archidiacono Richmondiæ in eadem ecclesia cathedrali in speciali, omnibusque aliis de jure in hac parte vocandis, citandis vel præmuniendis in generali, nulloque in hac parte comparente causam rationabilem quare nos statuere decernere et ordinare, prout in memoratis commissionis sive delegationis literis contineatur non debeamus proponente agente aut allegante, seu quicquam contra literas commissionis sive delegationis hujusmodi earumve finalem execucionem aut aliter quomodolibet opponente, plena causæ cognitione præhabita, decreto insuper interposito, et aliis solempniis subsequentibus quæ in hoc

negotio juxta juris exigentiam et qualitatem ejusdem negotii exiguntur; jurisque ordine et literarum hujusmodi forma in omnibus observatis, ac termino et via ulterius opponendi omnibus et singulis vocatis hujusmodi non comparentibus per nos pro tribunali ut præmittitur publice sedentes legitime præclusis, de expresso consensu dicti reverendissimi in Christo patris et domini domini Thomæ permissione divina Eboracensis archiepiscopi, Angliæ primatis et apostolicæ sedis legati, ac dictorum venerabilium virorum Roberti decani et capituli dictæ ecclesiæ cathedralis Eboracensis, et præfati reverendi viri magistri Johannis Shirwood sacræ theologiæ professoris archidiaconi Richmondiæ in dicta ecclesia cathedrali Eboracensi, ac omnium et singulorum interesse in hac parte habentium, ceterorum vocatorum, citatorum, et præmunitorum non comparentium hujusmodi in contumacias, ad petitionem providi viri Thomæ Brounles clerici, procuratoris dicti excellentissimi principis Ricardi ducis in hac parte sufficienter constituti, de cujus probitate nobis legitimis constabat atque constat documentis, nomine procuratoris ejusdem principis Ricardi ducis factis, de concilio jurisperitorum nobis in hac parte assistentium, invocata Spiritus Sancti gratia, nostrum statutum, decretum et ordinationem, auctoritate dicti sanctissimi in Christo patris, fecimus, legimus, et publicamus in hæc verba—

In Dei Nomine, Amen. Nos Willielmus, permissione divina abbas monasterii beatæ Mariæ de Jourvalle, Eboracensis diocesis, executor judex et commissarius sedis apostolicæ, unacum venerabilibus in Christo patribus beatæ Mariæ extra muros Eboraci et de Fontibus dictæ Eboracensis diocesis monasteriorum abbatibus, nostris propriis nominibus non expressatis, cum clausula quatenus nos vel duo aut unus nostrum in quodam negotio correctionem et punitionem capellanorum, clericorum, choristarum, ministrorum et aliarum personarum ecclesiæ collegiatæ loci de Middelham dictæ Eboracensis diocesis infra limites archidiaconatus Richmondiæ, in ecclesia cathedrali Eboracensi, et illius collegii pro tempore delinquentium intime concernente, per literas commissionis sive delegationis sanctissimi in Christi patris et domini domini Sixti divina providentia papæ quarti sufficienter et legitime deputati, pro tribunali publice sedentes ac in negotio hujusmodi cognoscentes et legitime procedentes, vocatis, citatis et legitime præmunitis reverendissimo in Christo patre et domino domino Thoma permissione divina Eboracensi archiepiscopo Angliæ primate et apostolicæ sedis legato, venerabilibus viris Roberto decano et capitulo ecclesiæ cathedralis Eboracensis, necnon reverendo viro magistro Johanne Shirwod sacræ theologiæ

professore archidiacono Richmondiæ in dicta cathedrali ecclesia Eboracensi in speciali, omnibusque aliis de jure in hac parte vocandis citandis et præmuniendis in generali, nulloque in hac parte comparente causam rationabilem quare nos statuere, decernere et ordinare, prout in memoratis commissionis sive delegationis literis contineatur non debeamus proponente dicente aut allegante, seu quicquam contra literas commissionis sive delegationis hujusmodi earumve finalem executionem aut aliter quomodolibet opponente, plena causæ cognitione præhabita, decreto insuper interposito, et aliis solempniis subsequentibus quæ in hoc negotio juxta juris exigentiam et qualitatem ejusdem negotii exiguntur, jurisque ordine et literarum hujusmodi forma in omnibus observatis, ac termino et via ulterius opponendi omnibus et singulis vocatis hujusmodi non comparentibus per nos pro tribunali ut præmittitur publice sedentes legitime præclusis, de expresso consensu dicti reverendissimi in Christo patris et domini domini Thomæ permissione divina Eboracensis archiepiscopi, Angliæ primatis, et apostolicæ sedis legati, et dictorum venerabilium virorum Roberti decani et capituli dictæ ecclesiæ cathedralis Eboracensis, et præfati reverendi viri magistri Johannis Shirwod sacræ theologiæ professoris archidiaconi Richmondiæ in dicta ecclesia cathedrali Eboracensi, ac omnium et singulorum interesse in hac parte habentium, ceterorum vocatorum, citatorum, et præmunitorum non comparentium hujusmodi in contumacias, ad petitionem providi viri Thomæ Brounles clerici, procuratoris dicti excellentissimi principis Ricardi ducis in hac parte sufficienter constituti, de cujus probitate nobis legitimis constabat atque constat documentis, nomine procuratoris ejusdem principis Ricardi ducis factis, de concilio jurisperitorum nobis in hac parte assistentium, invocata Spiritus Sancti gratia, ad nostrum statutum, decretum, et ordinationem procedimus in hunc modum. In Nomine Domini, Amen. Quia peracta, inactitata, deducta, allegata, et coram nobis pro tribunali ut præmittitur publice sedentibus posita et exhibita, dictaque et depositiones testium coram nobis per dictum Thomam Brounles procuratorem prædictum nomine procuratoris dicti excellentissimi principis Ricardi ducis productorum, ac per nos receptorum, admissorum, juratorum, et examinatorum, invenimus omnia et singula in literis commissionis sive delegationis nostræ hujusmodi contenter suggesta et specificata veritati subjacere ac vera fuisse et esse, idcirco nos Willielmus abbas, executor judex et commissarius prædictus, sic ut permittitur pro tribunali publice sedentes, de consensu expresso prædicto, quod deinceps perpetuis futuris temporibus correctio et punitio capellanorum, clericorum, choristarum, et ministrorum, et singularum

personarum ecclesiæ collegiatæ loci de Middelham prædicti et illius collegii hujusmodi pro tempore ut præfertur delinquentium ad providum virum Willielmum Beverley modernum et pro tempore existentem decanum ipsius ecclesiæ collegiatæ et nullum alium pertineant, ita quod nullus præter eundem decanum de correctione et punitione capellanorum, clericorum, choristarum, ministrorum, et personarum hujusmodi pro tempore delinquentium ut præmittitur se quovismodo intromittere presumat, auctoritate dicti sanctissimi in Christo patris et domini nostri domini Sixti divina providencia papæ quarti, nobis ut præmittitur in hac parte commissa, statuimus, decernimus, et ordinamus in hiis scriptis; quæ omnia et singula vestræ universitati prædictæ innotescimus per præsentes. In quorum omnium et singulorum præmissorum testimonium atque fidem præmissorum præsentes literas sive præsens publicum instrumentum, nostrum statutum, decretum, et ordinationem prædictam in se continentes sive continens exinde fieri, et per providum virum magistrum Johannem Haryngton in legibus baccalaurium clericum, auctoritatibus apostolica et imperiali notarium publicum, scribam nostrum per nos in hac parte specialiter assumptum, subscribi, publicari et in hanc publicam forma redegi, ipsiusque signo ac nomine solitis et consuetis mandavimus, nostrique officii sigilli appensione muniri fecimus. Facta, lecta, et lata in scriptis fuerunt nostrum statutum, decretum et ordinatum prædictum anno Dominicæ incarnationis Millesimo quadringentesimo octuagesimo secundo, indictione quinta decima, pontificatu dicti sanctissimi in Christo patris et domini nostri domini Sixti divina providentia papæ quarti anno undecimo, mensis vero Julii die vicesimo quarto, in ecclesia collegiata de Middelham prædicta, præsentibus tunc ibidem venerabilibus et discretis viris domino Johanne Gryndon capellano et Radulpho Wintringham generoso Eboracensis diocesis et aliis multis testibus, ad præmissa vocatis specialiter et rogatis.

APPENDIX (K).

Mandate of King Henry VIII. to induct Dean Welden.

(Introduction, p. 17.)

Henricus Dei gratia rex Angliæ et Franciæ, et dominus Hiberniæ, dilecto sibi in Christo Thomæ abbati de Gerves salutem. Cum nos decimo die Februarii ultimo præterito per literas nostras patentes dederimus et con-

cesserimus dilecto nobis magistro Simoni Welden in decretis baccallario decanatum de Medelham infra diocesem Eboracensem tunc per liberam resignationem Johannis Halle ex causa permutationis in ecclesia parochiali de Elsdem Dunolmensis diocesis, et non aliter neque alio modo factam vacantem, et ad nostram donationem et dispositionem pleno jure spectantem, habendum et gaudendum decanatum prædictum præfato Simoni Welden cum omnibus suis juribus et pertinentiis, durante vita sua naturali, prout in eisdem literis plenius continetur, vobis mandamus quod eundem magistrum Simonem in realem et corporalem possessionem decanatus prædicti ponatis et inducatis, admittentes ei stallum in choro et locum in capitulo prout moris est. Teste me ipso apud Westmonasterium xvij die Februarii anno regni nostri sexto.

Irrotulatur. (The King's seal attached.) PEXSALLE.

APPENDIX (L).

VALUATION OF THE DEANERY IN 1535.

(Introduction, p. 17.)

THE Deanery of Middleham is thus valued in the King's Books :—

Comitatus Ebor'.

Decanatus ruralis de Cateryk.

Decanatus de Myddleham.

Simon Welden incumbens—Decanatus ibidem valet in

Mansione cum terris dominicalibus iij^{l}. vj^{s}. viij^{d}.	iij.	vj.	viij.	
Decimis granorum xxvj^{s}. viij^{d}. fœni xiij^{s}. iiij^{d}.				
Lanorum et agnellorum xxxiij^{s}. iv^{d}. vitulorum vi^{s}.				xv^{l}. xvj^{s}.
Pencione de domino nostro rege v^{l}.	xij^{l}.	ix.	iiij.	
Minutis et privatis decimis ut in libro paschali iii^{l}. x^{s}.				
Reprisæ, viz. in pensione annuali archidiacono Richmondiæ	.	.	.	vj^{s}. viij^{d}.

Et valet clare	xv^{l}.	ix^{s}.	iiij^{d}.
Decima pars inde . . .		xxx^{s}.	xi^{d}. ^{qr}

Ecclesiastical Survey taken in pursuance of an act of parliament, 26 Hen. 8th, in the First Fruits office. (Ex quodam Rotulo Pergam. in offic. primitiarum Lond.)

APPENDIX (M).

Royal License to grant Probates of Wills, &c.

(Introduction, p. 18.)

Henricus Octavus Dei gratia Angliæ et Franciæ rex, fidei defensor, dominus Hiberniæ, ac in terris Supremum ecclesiæ Anglicanæ sub Christo Caput, dilectis nobis decano ac ministris collegii de Myddelham intra archdiaconatum Rychmondiæ Eboracensis diocesis salutem. Cum omnis potestas judiciaria ac jurisdicendi auctoritas atque etiam jurisdictio omnimoda tam ea quæ ecclesiastica dicitur quam secularis regia potestate velut a supremo capite ac omnium magistratuum intra regnum nostrum fonte primitus emanaverit, ac prædilectus consiliarius noster Thomas Crumwell dominus Crumwell, præclari ordinis Gartherii Miles, sigilli nostri privati custos, atque ad causas ecclesiasticas nostra auctoritate quomodolibet tractandas vicem gerens, Vicarius generalis, et officialis principalis, nostris et hujus regni nostri Angliæ negotiis tot ac tam arduis præpeditus existit, quod ad omnem jurisdictionem nobis uti Supremo Capiti hujusmodi competentem ubique locorum infra hoc regnum nostrum, et præsertim in hiis quæ moram commode non patiuntur, aut sine subditorum nostrorum injuria differri non possunt, in persona sua expedienda non sufficeret: idcirco nos, vestris in hac parte supplicationibus humilibus inclinati, et nostrorum subditorum parochiarum, vicorum, et locorum in quibus jurisdictionem exercere consuevistis commodis consulere cupientes, vobis vices nostras sub modo et forma sequenti committendas fore; vosque licenciandos esse decrevimus, ad probandum igitur, approbandum et insumandum testamenta et ultimas voluntates quorumcunque subditorum nostrorum infra parochias, vicos, et loca in quibus jurisdictio per vos seu prædecessores vestros aut illorum respective commissarios temporibus retroactis exercebatur ac rite exerceri potuit et consuevit; bona, jura, sive credita [non ultra] summam centum librarum vitæ et mortis suarum tempore habentium, necnon administrationes bonorum quorumcumque subditorum nostrorum infra parochias, vicos, et loca prædicta ab intestato decedentium quorum bona, jura, sive credita non ultra summam prædictam vitæ et mortis eorundem tempore se extendent, quatenus hujusmodi testamentorum probatio, approbatio, et insinuatio, atque administrationis com-

missio per prædecessores vestros aut eorum commissarios temporibus retroactis fiebat ac fieri et committi potuit et non aliter committendi ; calculum et ratiocinium et alia in ea parte expediendi, beneficiaque ecclesiastica quæcumque ad vestram collationem sive præsentationem aut dispositionem spectantia et pertinentia personis idoneis conferendi, easdemque in realem actualem et corporalem possessionem eorumdem juriumque et pertinentium suorum universorum inducendi, ac sic induci si et quatenus jus sic conferendi et judicandi apud vos aut prædecessores vestros eorumve commissarios hactenus fuerit et non aliter, tam in scriptis quam verbo faciendi atque mandandi ; causasque lites et negotia coram vobis aut vestris commissariis pendentes indecisas, necnon alias sive alia quascunque sive quæcunque quæ citra legum nostrarum et statutorum regni nostri offensa, coram vobis vestrisve commissariis agitari aut ad vestram seu alicujus commissariorum per vos vigore hujus commissionis deputandorum cognitionem devolvi aut deduci valeant et possint, quatenus hujusmodi causarum cognitio ad prædecessores vestros aut eorum officiales sive commissarios retroactis temporibus pertinuit, ac per vos exerceri potuit et consuevit et non aliter, examinandi et decidendi, ceteraque omnia et singula in præmissis tantum seu circa ea necessaria seu quomodolibet opportuna, vice, nomine et auctoritate nostris exequendi, vobis, de quorum doctrina vitaque et morum integritate plurimum confidimus, vices nostras cum potestate substituendi tenore præsentium committimus ac liberam concedimus facultatem, vosque in ea parte licenciamus per præsentes ad nostrum beneplacitum duraturas, quacunque inhibitione ante datum præsentium auctoritate nostra emanata in aliquo non obstante, cum cujuslibet congruæ et ecclesiasticæ cohercionis potestate. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum ad causas ecclesiasticas præsentibus apponi mandavimus. Datum decimo quinto die mensis Julii anno Domini Millesimo quingentisimo trigesimo octavo et regni nostri trigesimo.

THOMAS CRUMWELL.

APPENDIX (N).

LEASE OF THE RECTORY OF MIDDLEHAM, 1562.

(Introduction, p. 19.)

THIS INDENTURE, made the xviij. daye of Januarye, in the sexte yeare

of the reign of oure sovereigne lorde, Edwarde the Sexte, by the grace of God kynge of England, Fraunce, and Irelande, defensoure of the faithe, and in earthe of the churche of Englande and also of Ierlande the suppreyme heade, betweyne William Willys clerke, parsone of Myddelham, in the countie of Yorke, of the one partie, and Thomas Claphame, of the same towne, in the saide countie, gentleman, of the other partie, wytnessethe, that the sayde William Willys clerke hathe demyside, granted, and to ferme letten unto the saide Thomas Claphame all his hoolle parsonage and rectorye of Middlehame afforsayde, with all maner of housses, lands, tenements, meades, pastors, commons, tythes, and oblations, with all and syngular commodities, proffettes, and appurtynances to the saide parsonage and rectorye in any wise belongynge or apperteyninge; to have, hold, occupie, and enjoye the sayde parsonage and rectorye, with all and everye the premysses, unto the sayde Thomas Claphame, and his assignes, frome the feaste of Seyncte Marke the Evangylyste next ensewynge after the daite hereof, unto the ende and terme of sexe yeares nexte and immediatlie followynge fullie to be complete and endede, yeldynge and paynge therefore yearlie, durynge all the saide terme, unto the saide William Wyllys, or his successors, thirty and foure poundes of lawfull Englishe money, at two termes in the yeare, by even portions, that is to say, at the feaste of Seyncte Mertyn in winter nexte ensewynge seventeyn poundes, or within two dais of eyther of the saide feastes, at and upon the tombe of Seyncte Alkylde, in the paryshe churche of Myddelham afforsaide, and so yearlie from yeare to yeare, and terme to terme, durynge all the said terme of sexe yeares; and if it forton the saide rentes, or any part thereof, to be behynde and unpayde at any of the sayd feastes or termes, at the which it ought to be payde, that then it shall be lawfull unto the sayde William Willys, his assigns or successors, into the saide parsonage and rectorye, with all and everye the premysses, to re-enter, and the same to reposseyde, enjoye, and have agayne as in his or there former estayte, this indenture or anythynge therein conteynede to the contrarye notwythstandynge; provydede alwayse, that the sayde Thomas Claphame, and his assignes, shall of his or there proper costes and chardges fynde, beare, and stende to all maner of reparations of hedges and wallis belongynge to the sayde parsonage, and of all other housinge, so often as neide shall requyer; provydede also, that the saide Thomas Claphame, or his assignes, or any other person or

persons in his name, or by his commandement, shall not cutt, fell, or shrede any maner of eshe, elme, or ok woode belongynge to the sayde parsonage, nor that the saide Thomas Claphame shall not durynge the saide terme sell, lett, or sett over the saide parsonage, or any part or parcell thereof, to any person but onlie to the saide William Willys, or his assignes; and it is covenanted and agreed betwyne the saide parties that the saide William Willys shall have reservede to hyme, his assignes and successors, oute of the saide parsonage and rectorye, durynge all the saide terme, all the parcelles hereafter followynge, that is to say, foure kye and two horses gaites or pastors in the sprynge, wyntre, and somere, the teythe hay beyond Yoore, and of all maner of enclosors that cannot be provede of the Myddellfelde, Homesworthe, or Herdying (by two honeste men), and also all such houssyng as the saide William Willys reservede in one indenture heretofore made betweyne hym and the saide Thomas Claphame, savynge onlye the oxe-house, which the saide Thomas Claphame shall have; and also it is covenanted and agreyde betweyne the saide parties that the saide William Willys shall likewise have reserved unto him, his assignes, and successors, durynge all the saide terme, one close callede the Foundation Close, one piece of meadow called Sex Swaythes, the teythe hay of sex acres of meadow of the said William Willys his owne in the Myddelfelde, and also foure acres and one roode of medd grounde, that is to saye, one acre in Homeswathe, one acre fyve roodes in Tutyng Close, three roods at Whennell, three roodes at Crabtrye, and half an acre under Hubberskewghe; and also all the hoole jurysdiction, the churche yarde, mortuaries, probate of testaments, weddynge money, churchynge, headmas pence, and crysomes; and further it is covenantede and agreede betwyne the said parties, that the saide Thomas Claphame shall performe one indenture interchangeablie betweyne the said William Willys and one William Parkynson, and take and recyve of the saide William Parkynson all such somes of money as shall be dewe to the saide William Willys, and pay it as parte of the saide Thomas his rente for twoo yeares nexte to come; and more overe the saide Thomas Claphame dothe covenante by these presentes that he the saide William Willys, his assigns or successors, shall not onlie at the ende of the saide terme of sexe yeares peaseablie and quyetlie reentre into all the saide parsonage, with the appurtenances, but also if it chaunce the saide Thomas to departe to the mercye of God in the mean seasson, that then at

the feaste of Seyncte Marke nexte ensewynge the deathe of the saide Thomas Claphame, this present lease to seasse, and to be utterlye voyde, and of none effecte; and if any maner of persone or persons within the saide parsonage at any time duringe the forsaide terme doo not well and trewlie pay all their tythes and dewties belongynge to the saide parsonage, then the saide Thomas Claphame shall of his own proper costs and charges, without tract of time, attempte the lawe for the dewe reformacyon thereof; and also the saide Thomas Claphame shall peassablie and quyetlie avoyde from any parte of houssying reserved to the said William Willys at his commandement upon twoo days warnynge; and further more it is covenantede and agreeyde betweyne the saide parties, that the said William Willys shall have reserved unto hyme, his assignes, and successors, during all the said terme, twoo acres and three roods of the glebe lande laite in the tenure of John Warde, and also the puttyne in and ordre of the preste durynge all the saide terme, from tyme to tyme; and for the trewe and suer performance of all and syngler articles and covenantes herein conteigned and espycyfiede on the partie and behalf of the saide Thomas Claphame, to be performede and kepte, the said Thomas Claphame, with suyrties with hyme, standethe bounden to the saide William Willys in the some of one hundrethe poundes by his deyde obligatorye bearynge the date hereof. In wytness whereof eyther partie to other interchangeablie to the partes of these indentures have sett their handes and sealles, the daye and yeare above sayde.

THOMAS CLAPHAME.

APPENDIX (O).

DECREE OF THE COURT OF DELEGATES.

(Introduction, p. 28.)

CAROLUS SECUNDUS, Dei gratia Angliæ, Franciæ, et Hiberniæ rex, fidei defensor, &c. Universis et singulis cujuscunque dignitatis, status, gradus, honoris sive præeminentiæ extiterint ad quos hæ præsentes literæ nostræ testimoniales pervenerint ipsas visuris lecturis sive legi audituris salutem.

Universitati vestræ harum serie innotescimus et significamus quod, scrutatis recordis et archivis supremæ curiæ delegatorum nostrorum per Johannem Oughton notarium publicum dictæ curiæ registrarii principalis deputatum fideliter custoditis, invenimus sententiam quandem diffinitivam in dicta curia nostra latam, et actum super promulgatione ejusdem expeditum, sub tenore verborum sequentium, viz.

In Dei nomine, Amen. Auditis visis et intellectis ac plenarie et mature discussis per nos Humfredum permissione divina Londonensem episcopum, Johannem Kelyng militem capitalem justiciarium ad placita coram ipso rege tenenda assignatum, Egidium Sweit militem et legum doctorem almæ curiæ Cantuariæ de archubus London' officialem principalem, Robertum Wisemam et Gulielmum Turner milites et legum doctores, illustrissimi in Christo principis ac domini nostri domini Caroli secundi Dei gratia Angliæ, Scotiæ, Franciæ, et Hiberniæ regis, fidei defensoris, &c. judices delegatos rite et legitime constitutos, meritis et circumstantiis cujusdam causæ appellationis et querelæ quæ coram nobis in judicio inter Thomam Holdsworth clericum rectorem rectoriæ et decanum decanatus de Middleham in comitatu Eborum, diocesis Cestrensis, provinciæ Eboracensis, partem appellantem et querelantem ex una, et Thomam Burwell legum doctorem reverendissimi in Christo patris domini archiepiscopi Eboracensis vicarium in spiritualibus generalem et officialem principalem provinciæ Eborum partem appellantem et querelantem partibus ex altera, aliquandiu vertebatur et pendebat, vertiturque adhuc et pendet indecisa, rite et legitime procedentes, partibusque prædictis per earum respective procuratores coram nobis in judicio legitime et sufficienter comparentibus, parteque præfati Thomæ Holdsworth clerici sententiam ferri et promulgari ac justitiam fieri pro parte sua, parte vero memorati Thomæ Burwell sententiam etiam pro parte sua fieri instanter respective postulantibus et petentibus, rimatoque primitus per nos et diligenter recensito toto et integro processu coram nobis in dicta causa habito et facto, servatisque per nos de jure in hac parte servandis, ad sententiæ nostræ diffinitivæ sive nostri finalis decreti prolationem in hujusmodi causa ferendum sic duximus procedendum fore, et procedimus in hunc qui sequitur modum: Quia per acta inactitata, deducta, allegata, exhibita, proposita, probata pariter et confessata comperimus luculenter et invenimus partem præfati Thomæ Holdsworth intentionem suam in quodam libello suo appellatorio alias ex parte sua in

hac causa dato et admisso, et penes registrum hujus curiæ remanente deducto, quem quidem libellum pro hic lecto et inserto habemus et haberi volumus, sufficienter et ad plenum quoad inferius pronuntianda fundasse pariter et probasse ; nihilque effectuale aut sufficiens ex parte et per partem præfati Thomæ Burwell, legum doctoris, reverendissimi in Christo patris domini archiepiscopi Eboracensis prædicti vicarii in spiritualibus generalis et officialis principalis antedicti, in hac parte exceptum, deductum, allegatum, exhibitum, propositum, aut probatum fuisse et esse, quod intentionem præfati Thomæ Holdsworth in hac parte eliderit seu quomodolibet enervaret : idcirco nos judices delegati antedicti, Christi nomine primitus invocato ac ipsum solum Deum oculis nostris præponentes et habentes, deque et cum consilio jurisperitorum cum quibus in hac parte communicavimus matureque deliberavimus, pro vice appellationis et querelæ ex parte et per partem præfati Thomæ Holdsworth in hac factarum et interpositarum, ipsasque appellationem et querelam suas fuisse et esse veras justas et legitimas, ac ex veris justis et legitimis causis ad serenissimum dominum nostrum dominum Carolum secundum Dei gratia Angliæ, Scotiæ, Franciæ, et Hiberniæ regem, fidei defensorem, &c. et ad eum in suprema curia sua Cancellariæ factas et interpositas fuisse et esse, necnon male perperam, nulliter et inique per judicem a quo extitit in hac parte appellatum et querelatum processum fuisse et esse, proque jurisdictione nostra seu potius domini nostri regis in hac parte ad omnem juris effectum pronuntiamus, decernimus, et declaramus, omniaque et singula gravamina et nullitates et injustitias per eundem judicem antedicto Thomæ Holdsworth in hac parte illata et inflicta, et præsertim ea vel id propter quæ vel quod fuit in hac parte appellatum et querelatum revocamus, cassamus, et annullamus, proque nullis et invalidis ad omnem juris effectum pronuntiamus etiam decernimus et declaramus, præfatumque Thomam Holdsworth clericum, rectorem ecclesiæ et decanum decanatus de Middleham prædicti, ab archiepiscopali visitatione Eboracensis archiepiscopi liberum et immunem et exemptum fuisse et esse ad omnem juris effectum pronuntiamus decernimus et declaramus, eundemque Thomam Burwell legum doctorem reverendissimi in Christo patris ac domini domini Richardi providentia divina Eborum archiepiscopi vicarium in spiritualibus generalem et officialem principalem antedictum in expensis legitime, . . . ite et per partem præfati Thomæ Holdsworth in hac causa factis et faciendis, eidemque seu parti suæ solvendis, condemnandum fore de jure debere etiam pronuntiamus, decerni-

mus et declaramus, sitque condemnatus easdemque expensas ad summam quadraginta librarum legalis monetæ Angliæ taxamus, et eundem Thomam Burwell legum doctorem domini archiepiscopi Eboracensis antedicti vicarium in spiritualibus generalem et officialem principalem prædictum ad realiter solvendum seu solvi faciendum præfato Thomæ Holdsworth clerico seu parti suæ dictam summam taxatam citra vel ante primum diem mensis Augusti proximo futurum monendum fore (sub pena juris) decernimus per hanc nostram sententiam diffinitivam sive hoc nostrum finale decretum, quam sive quod ferimus et promulgamus in hiis scriptis.

HUMFR. LONDON: JOHN KELYNG. G. SWEIT. ROB. WYSEMAN. WILL. TURNER.

Lecta, lata et promulgata fuit hujusmodi sententia retroscripta per judices delegatos in eadem mentionatos nono die mensis Julii anno Domini Millesimo sexcentesimo sexagesimo sexto inter horas secundam et quintam post meridiem ejusdem diei in aula publica hospitii dominorum servientium ad legem in vico vocato Fleet Street, in præsentia mei Thomæ Oughton notarii publici actuarii assumpti, et testium in actis desurgum factis nominatorum, ita testor, THO. OUGHTON notarius publicus actuarius assumptus. Quæ præmissa omnia et singula, ita ut in curia prædicta agebantur et fiebant, sic eadem omnia et singula universitati vestræ duximus exemplificanda fore, eademque omnia et singula cum suis originalibus de recordo in curia prædicta remanentibus fideliter concordare attestamur. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum dictæ curiæ nostræ præsentibus apponi fecimus. Datum Londini in curia prædicta decimo quarto die mensis Augusti anno regni nostri decimo octavo.

J. OLDBURY, Registrarius Regius.

APPENDIX (P).

LICENCE OF DEAN COTES TO A MIDWIFE, 1721.

(Introduction, p. 34.)

LUCAS COTES clericus, artium magister, decanus ecclesiæ collegiatæ de Middleham, legitimè fulcitus, universis Christi fidelibus ad quos hoc præsens scriptum pervenerit salutem. Vobis harum serie notum esse volumus quod nos Mariam Stott uxorem Thomæ Stott de Middleham

prædicta, propter ipsius peritiam, scientiam, et industriam circa mulieres in summo periculo tempore puerperii, prout nobis ex parte sua per certificatorium sub manibus quarundem matronarum apparet, ad exercendum igitur et practicandum artem sive industriam obstetricis in et per totum decanatum de Middleham prædicta, prout res postulaverit et opus fuerit, approbamus, eidemque Mariæ Stott quantum in nobis est et de jure possimus licentiam ac liberam facultatem damus et concedimus per præsentes quamdiu te bene gesseris *(sic)* et donec habueris in mandatis nostris. Datum sub sigillo officii nostri (quo in talibus utimur) vicesimo sexto die mensis Augusti anno Domini 1721°.

JOHANNES WAITE, Notarius Publ.
LU. COTES (L.S.) Decanus de Middleham.

(On a 10*s.* stamp.)

APPENDIX (Q).

GRANT OF THE DEANERY TO THE REV. R. B. NICKOLLS.

(Introduction, p. 40).

GEORGE the Third, by the grace of God of Great Britain, France, and Ireland king, defender of the faith, and so forth, to all to whom these presents shall come, greeting. Whereas the deanery of our collegiate church of Middleham, in the county of York and diocese of Chester, is now legally void by the death of the last dean thereof, and to our grant and free disposition in full right belonging: Now know ye that we of our especial grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion have for us, our heirs, and successors, given and granted, and by virtue of these presents do give and grant unto our trusty and well-beloved Robert Boucher Nickolls, clerk, the office and dignity of dean of our collegiate church of Middleham aforesaid, to have, hold, and enjoy the said deanery unto him the said Robert Boucher Nickolls during his natural life, with all preheminences, jurisdictions, titles, daily distributions, dividends, exceedings, refections, mansions, houses, gardens, orchards, closes of pasture land, and all and all manner of rights, commodities, emoluments, and advantages whatsoever to the said deanery belonging or appertaining, or hereafter to belong, in as

full and ample manner and form as the last dean thereof, or any other his predecessors, had, held, and enjoyed, or ought to have had, held, and enjoyed, the same, commanding and by these presents firmly enjoining and requiring the chapter and chaplains of the collegiate church of Middleham aforesaid, or any other or others whomsoever having sufficient power and authority in this behalf, by whatsoever name or names they shall be called, that they do rightfully and lawfully admit the said Robert Boucher Nickolls to the aforesaid deanery, and assign him a stall in the choir and a place and voice in the said chapter, and that they institute and invest him dean thereof, with all its rights, members, and appurtenances; and that they do and perform all and singular other matters and things that shall be in any wise fit and necessary to be done in this behalf. In witness whereof these our letters we cause to be made patent. Witness ourself, at Westminster, the twenty-ninth day of June, in the twenty-sixth year of our reign.

By the Lord Chancellor of Great Britain,

(L.S.) GREAVES.

Endorsed.—In obedience to the mandate contained in the within grant we whose names are underwritten did, on the eleventh day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, at the request of the within-named Robert Boucher Nickolls, assign unto him a stall in the choir and a place in the collegiate church of Middleham, in the county of York, according to custom. Witness our hands, the said eleventh day of August, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-six.

Wm Chaytor.
J. Costobadie, Rectr of Wensley.
Leod Howson, Vicar of East Witton.
Jas Lawson, Minister of West Witton.
Alexr Simpson, Minister of Middleham.
Mark Bulmer,
Thos Harrison,
Geo. Hudson, } Churchwardens.
Thos Ibbetson, P. Clerk.
John Breare.
Wm Luke Yarker, (Registrar).

ADDENDA ET CORRIGENDA.

Since the preceding sheets were printed off, the editor has been furnished, by the kindness of an antiquarian friend, with the following translation of the charter granted by King Richard II., to Sir Ralph de Neville, first Earl of Westmoreland, for a market and fair at Middleham. (Vide Pref. p. xii. note.)

[R. Chart. A° 11. Ric. 2. n. 21. Anno 1388.]

The king to all, &c. greeting. Know ye that we of our special favour have granted, and by this our charter confirmed, to our beloved and faithful Ralph de Nevill, that he and his heirs for ever may have a market every week on Monday at his village of Midelham in the county of York, and a fair there every year on the Feast of Saint Alkelda the virgin*: except that market and that fair be to the hurt of neighbouring markets and neighbouring fairs. Wherefore we will and firmly command for ourselves and our heirs, that the foresaid Ralph and his heirs for ever have the foresaid market and fair at the foresaid village, with all the liberties and free customs belonging to a market and fair of this sort, except that market and fair be to the hurt of neighbouring markets and of neighbouring fairs as aforesaid. Besides, of our own special favour we have granted and given licence for ourselves and our heirs, as much as we can, to the foresaid Ralph, to inclose his wood of Raskelf called Raskelf Wode, near our Forest of Galtres in the county foresaid, and thereof to make a park, and three places to keep deer in, adjacent to the same park, the length of each

* This fair, which is still held on the 5th of November, being the feast of St. Alkelda, and the two following days, in each year, is justly esteemed the largest cattle fair in the north of England.

of those places to keep deer in to be an hundred feet; and he may hold for himself and for his heirs for ever that wood so inclosed and the park thereof, and the three foresaid places made to keep deer in, without any occasion or impediment of us or of our heirs, justices, sheriffs, escheators, or other bailiffs or ministers of ours whatsoever, provided, however, that wood be not within the limits of our forest. These being witnesses, the venerable fathers, William archbishop of Canterbury, primate of all England; Thomas archbishop of York, primate of England, our chancellor; William bishop of Winchester; John bishop of Hereford, our treasurer; John bishop of Sarum, keeper of our privy seal; our very dear uncles Edmund duke of York, and Thomas duke of Gloucester; our very dear kinsmen, Richard earl of Arundel, and Thomas earl of Warwick; Richard Le Scrope, and John Devereux, steward of our household, and others. Given by our hand at Westminster the 16th day of February.

By the KING himself.

Little need be added to those details of the Church which have been already given. (Pref. pp. xvi. *et seq.*) The following inscriptions, however, on the front pannels of the organ-loft at its western extremity, ought not to be omitted.

"A Memorial of the Benefactions left to the Poor of Midleham, *the several securities being lodged in the vestry.*

"ROBT. PICKERING, late of Little Scrafton, in the parish of Coverham, deceased, by his last will and testament, in writing, bearing date the 19th day of Jan^{ry}, 1602, hath given 60 pounds, that some portion of lands might be bought with the said; and that out of the product thereof, amongst other charities, thereout likwise to be paid, twenty shillings per ann^{m} should be paid by his exec^{rs} to the poor of Midleham, upon every Thursday in Passion week for ever, y^{e} said being payable out of a certain dwelling house in Ripon, in the possession of Rich^{d} Skaife."*

* This payment has been discontinued for many years. Vide 7th Report on Charities, p. 702. See also Lawson's Collectanea, vol. ii. p. 568.

"JOHN HOLDSWORTH, late of Midleham, gent[n]. deceased, by his deed, bearing date the 24th of Nov[r], 1696, hath given and granted 3 gates in the Busk's Pasture, in Midleham, unto the Rev[d] Christ[r] Colby, dean of Midleham, and his successors for ever, for the use of the poor thereof, y[e] said gates to be let by y[e] overseers, the profit thereof distributed by the dean and overs[rs] every year on 24[th] Dec[r]."

"ROBERT DIXON the ealder, late of Middleham, yeoman, deceased, by his last will and testament, bearing date the 20[th] day of Dec[br], 1706, hath given and bequeathed unto his two grand-children Rob[t] the son of Christ[r] Dixon, and Rob[t] the son of Jn[o] Dixon, equally to be divided between them, and to their heirs and assigns for ever, one close or parcel of ground lying in Midleham, lately belonging to the said Rob[t] Dixon y[e] elder, commonly called by the name of New Close, they paying out of the same for ever to the dean, churchwardens, and overseers of y[e] poor for the township of Midleham afforesaid, for the time being, the sum of forty shillings upon the 1[st] day of May in every year for and towards the putting and binding out a poor boy apprentice in every year, according to the discretion of the said dean, churchwardens, and overseers, or as the majority of them shall agree."

"JOHN HEATHFEILD, late of Midleham afforesaid, deceased, by his last will and testament, bearing date the 18[th] day of Nov[r], 1688, hath given unto the poor of Midleham 10 pounds, the interest of the said 10 pounds to be paid yearly and for ever, to be disposed of by the churchwardens and overseers of the said town; and it is to be remembered that 5 pounds, part of the said 10 pounds, is lately laid out, together with other monies hereafter mentioned, in a purchase of a parcel of ground called Brough Close, now in the possession of John Fawcit, for the use of the poor of Midleham."

"THOS. SWEETING, late of Liverpoole, in the county of Lancaster, merchant, deceas'd, by his last will and testament, bearing date the 23[d] day of May, 1706, hath given and bequeathed to the poor of the township of Midleham the sum of 50 pounds, to remain as a stock, and the interest to be paid yearly to their use, at the discretion of the minister, churchwardens, and overseers of the poor for the time being; which said sum of 50 pounds, together with the sum of 5 pounds, part of the sum of 10 pounds before-mentioned to be given to the poor by John Heathfeild before named, have, by the dean, churchwardens, and overseers of Midleham, for the better preserving thereof for the use of the poor, been lately laid out in a purchase

of ground called Brough-Close, lying in Midleham, and lately belonging to Jn° Fawcit, and now in the possession of the said Jn° Fawcit by virtue of a lease thereof for his life, at the yearly rent of 55 shillings, by equal payments, upon the 22[d] of Oct[r] and the 20 day of May, for the use of the poor of Midleham."

"ROBERT NICKELSON, late of Midleham, deceased, hath given to the poor of Midleham 10 pounds, which said 10 pounds hath been since disposed of in a purchase of two cattle gates upon Midleham Moor, for y[e] use of the poor, the rents whereof are to be distributed yearly, and for ever, upon the 24[th] day of December amongst the poor of Midleham afforesaid." Note.—The security or title deeds for this legacy is not yet found. A.D. 1716.

"WILLIAM TENNANT, late of Middleham, stone-mason, by his will, bearing date about the year 1792, bequeathed the sum of fifty pounds, the interest of which is to be paid to the schoolmaster of Middleham for instructing two poor boys of the parish in reading, writing, or accounts. The dean and churchwardens for the time being are from time to time to nominate the two boys.

"N.B. The said sum of 50 pounds is vested in the 5 per Cent. Navy Stock in the name of the Rev[d] John Cockcroft.—Edward Place, A.M., dean; George Langdale, Thomas Haw, William Hanxwell, churchwardens, 1774."

In addition to the above detailed charities there is also an ancient almshouse in the town, the bequest, it is supposed, of some pious individual, containing comfortable accommodation for six poor people. On a stone inserted over the door appears the following inscription:

"This almshouse is the property of the inhabitants of Middleham, and was rebuilt by them for the use and maintenance of their poor in the year 1752."

The church is very poor indeed in brasses or heraldry; the only memorials of the kind which now remain in addition to those already noticed are the following:

Above the inscription to Dean Coleby (vide Introduction, p. 31) are engraved his armorial bearings, viz.:

Azure, a chevron or, between three escallops argent, within a bordure engrailed of the second.

Crest. A dexter arm, armed and embowed, holding a sword, the point dropping blood, all proper. *Coleby.*

On a slab in the choir a brass, bearing, on a wreath, a fleur-de-lis, beneath it—

E. P.
Ob. 28. Ap. 1785.
Æ. 58.

(Vide Introduction, p. 39.)

On a common flag in the centre aisle a small brass, with the inscription—"Mary Fogerthwaite," surmounting a heart, bearing the date 1731.

Above the sepulchral slab of Abbot Thornton (vide Preface, p. xx.) is a marble tablet in memory of Mark Bulmer, of Middleham, ob. 30 June, 1792, his wife and son; it bears the following arms:

Gules, a lion rampant, within an orle of billets or.

Crest. On a wreath of the colours, a demi-bull rampant regardant gules, armed and unguled or, charged on the shoulder with an escallop between two billets in fess of the second. *Bulmer.*

ERRATA.

Introduction, p. 17, line 8 from bottom, after vol. v. *supply* p. 246.
Ibid. last line, *for* "Well Hospital" *read* "the chantry in Tanfield church."
P. 33, last line, *for* "Addenda" *read* "Preface, p. xiii."

INDEX.

Almshouse, 109
Abolition of the slave trade, 47
Armorial bearings, 109

Bedale, bequest to the poor of, 38, *note*
Beverley, Wm. rector of Middleham, 5
——— assents to the projected college, 6, 64
——— becomes first dean, 7
——— made dean of Wymbourne, 14
——— has a grant of the pension of the abbey of York, 14
Bolton castle, xxvi
Booth, archbishop, 4, *note*
——— grants a commission to erect Middleham college, 5, 63
——— death of, 9
Breare, John, esq. gives peal of bells, xv, *note*

Charities, memorial of, 107
Chester, bishop of, testimony to the jurisdiction of Middleham, 28, *note*
Church of Middleham, archæological details of, xvi, *et seq.*
——— chantry in, xiii
Churchwardens, list of, 59
Coleby, Christopher, dean of Middleham, 30, 31
Cotes, Luke, dean of Middleham, 32
——— actions against, for marrying without licence or banns, 32
——— gains a verdict, *ib.*
——— demolishes ancient fittings of the church, 33
——— notices of his family, 34
——— buried at Manchester, and inscription over his grave, 35
——— grants a licence to a midwife, 36, 103
Coverham abbey, xxvi
Cromwell, Thomas lord, licence of jurisdiction, 19, 96

Deans, catalogue of, 56

Errata, 110

Gloucester, Richard duke of, resolves to found a college at Middleham, 3
——— takes the necessary steps to accomplish his design, 3—7
——— procures an Act of Parliament to endow his college, 6
——— grants to it the advowson of the parish, 11, 84
——— grants ten acres of land to his college, 11
——— enters into a composition for the tithes, 11, 85
——— last visit to Middleham, 16

Halle, John, dean of Middleham, 16, 94
Halsted, Miss C. A. xxvii, 1
Hardy, J. Stockdale, tribute by, to dean Nickolls, 44
Holdsworth, Thomas, dean of Middleham, 27
——— appeals against the archbishop's jurisdiction, 28, 100
Hospital and chapel, xv
Hutton family, notice of, 35, *note*

Jervaux abbey, 12, *note*

Linley, family of, 22
Loftus family, notice of, 26, and *note*
Lytton, Sir E. B. his remarks on Middleham, viii

Market, charter for, 106

Marriages from all parts of England, celebrated at the collegiate church, Middleham, 32
Medelai (Middleham), ix
Middleham, castle of, built, ix
——— church of, ix, xi
——— castle of, described, xxiii, *et seq.*
——— Gloucester's partiality for, 3
——— parish church of, erected into a collegiate church, 7, 66
——— castle, notices of, 22, 25
Ministers, catalogue of, 56
Monasteries, dissolution of, noticed, 18

Nickolls, R. B. dean of Middleham, 40
——— installation of, 104
——— character of, 40
——— discipline enforced by, 42, 43
——— death, 43
——— epitaph on, 44, *note*
——— writings of, 54
Norfolk, manors in, granted to Middleham College, 15

Pagett, Henry, dean of Middleham, 21
——— Nathaniel, dean of, 24
Parish clerks, list of, 58
Pearson, Dr. Thomas, commissary to the archdeacon of Richmond, 6
——— his assent, 71
Penances performed, 38
Place, Edward, dean of Middleham, 36
——— his installation, 37
——— appoints a commissary, *ib.*
——— curious notice with regard to marriages, *ib.*
——— notice of family of, 36, *note*
——— Edward, the younger, succeeds his father as dean, 38
——— loses his only son, 39
——— his death, 40
Pontefract Castle, a residence of Richard duke of Gloucester, 2
Pullein, Joshua, dean of Middleham, 24
——— family notice of, 24, *note*

Registrars, list of, 58
Richmond, archdeacon, resigns his jurisdiction, 11, 87
——— castle, xxvi
——— title of earl of not assumed by sir Ralph de Neville, xii, *note*
Rotheram, archbishop, 9, *note*
——— resigns his jurisdiction as ordinary and metropolitan, 10, 82

Statutes drawn up for government of Middleham College, 7
——— extracts from, 8
——— confirmed by the Holy See, 9
Surrogates, list of, 57

Tanfield castle and church, xxvi
Thornton, abbot, xx
Tomlinson, Rev. G. C. xxvii

Valor Ecclesiasticus, 17, 95

Welden, Simon, dean of Middleham, 17
Wensleydale, beauty of, xxv, 2
Whitaker's statements erroneous, xi, xii *note*, xvii, 10 *note*, 17 *notes*, 20, and *note*
——— omits a dean, 16
——— omits three deans in succession, 21
Willes, William, dean of Middleham, 18
——— grants a lease of the rectory of Middleham, 19, 97
Wilberforce, 40
Wood, P. S. dean of Middleham, 54

J. B. NICHOLS AND SON, PRINTERS, 25, PARLIAMENT STREET.

BOUND BY
REMNANT & EDMONDS
LONDON

BSB Bayerische StaatsBibliothek

MDZ Münchener DigitalisierungsZentrum Digitale Bibliothek

Atthill, William, 1807-1884

Documents relating to the foundation and antiquities of the Collegiate Church of Middleham, in the County of York with an historical introduction, and incidental notices of the castle, town, and neighbourhood

London 1847

4 Brit. 123 f-38
urn:nbn:de:bvb:12-bsb10225557-3